THERETO

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2. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference is Mark Anotine Foster's Federal complaint in the instant matter.

3. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by reference is Mark
Antoine Foster's state complaint entitled Foster v. Operation Dignity, Inc., a California Non-Profit
corporation, ALEX McELREE, an individual, WILLIAM KENNEDY, an individual, LINDA
GRIFFITH, an individual (Alameda County Case No. RG06302322) based on the same facts and
causes of action claimed in the instant matter against the same parties. Foster actually has two
state court claims pending against defendants herein, the second being Foster v. Operation Dignity,
et al, (Alameda County Case No. RG07318238). (Attached hereto as Exhibit "C".) Pursuant to an
Order of Consolidation, these two state actions were consolidated, with Case No. RG06302322
being the controlling matter. The consolidated cases are being handled by the Honorable Stephen
Dombrink. (Order of Consolidation attached hereto as Exhibit "D".)

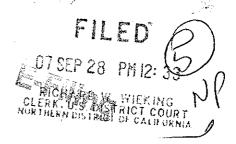
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed December 3, 2007, in Pleasanton, California.

Jay W. Brown

EXHIBIT "A"

Mark Antoine Foster, In Pro Per 725 Ellis Street, #408 San Francisco, CA (415) 756-1611



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MMC

OAKLAND DIVISION

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MARK ANTOINE FOSTER.

C

COMPLAINT

5030

Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

VS.

OPERATION DIGNITY, INC., a
California Non-Profit corporation,
ALEX McELREE, an individual, WILLIAM
KENNEDY, an individual, LINDA
GRIFFIN
Defendants



I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This court has jurisdiction over this complaint because it arises under the laws of the United States. The court has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331, 5 U.S.C. §7. The action arises out of the Constitution of the United States and plaintiff seeks to redress violations of fifth and fourteenth amendments to the United States Constitution. Plaintiff also seeks to redress defendants' subsequent violations of the FHAA and

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COMPLAINT

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attack the appropriateness of the defendants 'actions violating Section 794 of the Rehabilitation Act ("Rehab Act") 29 U.S.C. § 794(a) (1996), the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Consumer Fraud Act.

2. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C.1402(a)and1391(e). Venue is appropriate in this court because all of the defendants reside or work in this district and all of the acts and omissions giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in this district.

II. INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT.

3. This lawsuit would be assigned to the Oakland Division of this court because a substantial, if not all of the events and omissions giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in this district, and specifically in the city of Alameda, California.

III. PARTIES

- 4. At all times herein mentioned, Plaintiff MARK ANTOINE FOSTER was a resident of the City of Alameda, County of Alameda, with his residence address being 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Apt. A, Alameda, California. Plaintiff took possession of his apartment on or about August 17, 2004 and remained in possession until January 31, 2007. Plaintiff moved to 725 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA.
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant **OPERATION DIGNITY**, **INC**. (hereafter "OPERATION DIGNITY") is a California non-profit corporation with its principal office located at 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California. Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY owns, operates, leases, or manages that certain apartment building located at 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Alameda, California, which is commonly known as "Dignity Commons." Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY is Plaintiff's landlord.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant ALEX McELREE, an individual, is the owner, officer, director,

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employee, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.

- 7. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, a unity of interest and ownership between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE such that any individuality and separateness between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE, as owner, officer, director, or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY, has ceased. Defendants are the alter egos of one another.
- 8. Adherence to the fiction of separate existence between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE as entities distinct from one another would permit an abuse of the corporate privilege and would sanction fraud or promote injustice in that it would prevent Plaintiff from pursuing claims for damages from all parties responsible for his injuries.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant WILLIAM KENNEDY, an individual, was the employee, partner, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant LINDA GRIFFIN, an individual, was the employee, partner, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. Her principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.
- 11. Plaintiff does not know the true names of Defendants and therefore sues them by their fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint when their true names and capacities are ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged and that Plaintiff's damages as herein alleged were proximally caused by these defendants. Each reference in this complaint to "Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY," "Defendant McELREE," "Defendant KENNEDY," "Defendant GRIFFIN," "Defendant," "Defendants," or a specifically named defendant refers also to all defendants sued under fictitious names.

COMPLAINT

- 12. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant was the agent, employee, partner, independent contractor, or joint venturer of each other defendant and was acting within the scope and authority of such relationship. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the defendants herein consented to, ratified, and authorized the acts herein alleged of each of the remaining defendants.
- 13. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant operated and managed Dignity Commons and maintained control of Dignity Commons.

IV. INTRODUCTION

- 14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 13 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 15. This is a wrongful eviction matter stemming from defendants filing an unlawful detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006.
- Operation Dignity Inc. is a transitional housing program servicing U.S. Veterans. Operation Dignity Inc. is also a Public Housing Assistance program (PHA) governed by HUD and other federal and state laws that require that they follow due process in any termination of their tenants' tenancies. Operation Dignity Inc. is privately owned but receives federal rent subsidies from the Veterans Administration to help subsidize the veterans rent. The VA pays approximately 65% of the veteran's rent, the veteran pays the balance.
- unlawful detainer actions against plaintiff's tenancy with defendants, defendants filed two (2) unlawful detainer actions against plaintiff, in both proceedings plaintiff brought forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense and an affirmative cause of action, in order to retain possession of his apartment. The first unlawful detainer action, case number AG06262593 was filed on March 30, 2006 and was for plaintiff's purported nonparticipation in case management services. On or about July 5, 2006, during and at the commencement of plaintiff's pre-trial conference regarding the unlawful detainer, defendants agreed to dismiss

the case against plaintiff, and plaintiff retained in possession of the premises at 2300 Moonlight Terrace in Alameda, California. The second unlawful detainer action, case number AG06279183 was filed on July 14, 2006 and was for plaintiff's alleged nonpayment of rent. At the commencement of plaintiff's pre-trial conference, defendants agreed to waive plaintiff's back rent from June 2006, if plaintiff would agree to vacate the premises by January 31, 2007.

Defendants' reason for terminating plaintiff's lease was that plaintiff's rent subsidy from the VA expired. Plaintiff agreed to vacate. A stipulation regarding Dismissal/Judgment was agreed upon by both defendants and plaintiff, thereafter on January 31, 2008, plaintiff vacated the premises.

FIRST COUNT

Arbitrary Discrimination

Violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617 Caused by Retaliatory Eviction pursuant to §1942.5 (c)]

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs1through 17 as though fully set forth herein.
- 19. Plaintiff brought this action in Alameda Superior Court as an affirmative defense and an affirmative cause of action for retaliatory eviction pursuant to California Civil Code §1942.5 (a) (c), and pursuant to California Civil Code §52 and FEHA. Plaintiff now brings this action to this district court pursuant to the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617 and 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(a) of the Fair Housing Act Amended (FHAA) for; being retaliated against by defendants for plaintiff organizing and advocating lessee's rights, and informing other tenants of those rights, and for peaceably exercising his own rights under the law to retain possession of his apartment. Defendants conduct was intentional discrimination and constituted coercion, intimidation and interference on the account of plaintiff having exercised his rights and aided and encouraged others to exercise their rights, among other things.
 - 20. Statute Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617, makes it unlawful to

coerce, intimidate, threaten or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by the Fair Housing Act.

- 21. California Civil Code §1942.5 (h) states "The remedies provided by this section shall be in addition to any other remedies provided by statutory or decisional law".
- 22. California Civil Code §52(e) states "Actions brought pursuant to this section are independent of any other actions, remedies, or procedures that may be available to an aggrieved party pursuant to any other law".
- 23. Plaintiff timely files this complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(a) (1) (A) of the Fair Housing Act Amended (FHAA, which states, "An aggrieved person may commence an civil action in an appropriate United States district court or state court not later than 2 years after the occurrence or the termination of the alleged discriminatory housing practice, or breach of conciliation agreement entered into under this subchapter, which ever occurs last, to obtain appropriate relief with respect to such discriminatory housing practice or breach."
- 24. On or about June 28, 2004, plaintiff entered into a written rental agreement with defendants by the terms of which defendants rented the premises to plaintiff on a month-to-month tenancy at the rental rate of \$225.00 per month, payable monthly on the first day of each and every month, commencing on June 28, 2004.
- 25. Under the terms of the rental agreement, plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, and had continued in possession of his apartment since until January 31, 2007...
- 26. On or about December 15, 2005, plaintiff was informed by defendants, and each of them, that his tenancy would be terminated in March 2006 due to plaintiff's purported "nonparticipation in case management services," a program offered by defendants' transitional housing program. Plaintiff opposed defendants' termination of his tenancy because, among other things, his lease contained no provision requiring his participation in such program, nor did it

limit the term of his tenancy to any specific months or years. The defendants issued most of the other tenant/veterans an 18 to 24 month lease with a stipulation requiring participation in their case management services program. Plaintiff so informed defendants, that his lease contained no provision requiring him to participate in such case management services program, and that although the stipulation was not in his lease, he still did participate in case management services. Plaintiff further informed defendants that he has a legal right as a tenant to retain possession of his apartment, and will exercise his rights if necessary.

- 27. On or about February 16, 2006, defendants, and each of them, served plaintiff with a thirty (30) day termination notice to quit the premises on or about March 17, 2006. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the subject 30 day termination notice to quit was in retaliation for plaintiff opposing defendants' actions to evict him, and for informing defendants that he will exercise his legal right as a tenant to remain in possession of the premises. This constitutes the first act of retaliation.
- 28. Thereafter, when plaintiff did not vacate the premises on or about March 17, 2006, defendants filed an unlawful detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006. However, defendants did not serve the summons on plaintiff. Plaintiff received notice from this Superior Court, County of Alameda, notifying plaintiff that an unlawful detainer action had been filed against him. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the filing of the subject unlawful detainer action and notice received by plaintiff was in retaliation for plaintiff not vacating the premises, and was meant to intimidate and harass plaintiff out of his apartment. This constitutes the second act of retaliation.
- 29. Thereafter, on or about May 3, 2006, defendants offered plaintiff a written contract that would have allowed plaintiff to remain in possession of the premises for an additional ninety (90) days if plaintiff would agree to reimburse defendants for the \$300 in legal costs incurred by defendants to file the subject unlawful detainer action against plaintiff. Such

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action insulted plaintiff because it was unconstitutional and violated HUD rules and due process. Such action would diminish plaintiff's constitutional rights if plaintiff signed the written contract, as the contract was meant to terminate his tenancy, and was an action not following due process to evict plaintiff from a federally supported housing program. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the written contract was unconstitutional, and he could not afford to pay the three hundred dollar (\$300.00) legal costs to reimburse defendants for the unlawful detainer action, and plaintiff refused to sign it. This constitutes the third act of retaliation

- 30. The defendants attempted to evict plaintiff illegally prior to his two year . rent subsidy from the VA ending, and the contract was used as a "tool of harassment" to do it. The contract insulted plaintiff because it was being used to try to trick and coerce plaintiff out of his apartment, and because defendants were exploiting plaintiff's financial, psychological and homeless status, and figured if they waited until the right time and offer plaintiff the contract he would be so desperate to stay he would sign it. When he refused to sign it, they served the unlawful detainer on him.
- 31. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that when the defendants offered the contract to plaintiff they violated plaintiff's Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment Rights, which violated due process laws when they did not follow proper procedures (or used improper procedures) to evict him and/or terminate his tenancy.
- 32. Plaintiff alleges that the May 3, 2006 contract also violated HUD rules as it relates to his lease. In section nine (9), Termination of Tenancy, in plaintiff's lease, it states: Any termination of this Agreement by the agent must be carried out in accordance with APC Property Management Standards, HUD regulations, state and local law, and the terms of this agreement.
 - 33. Defendants were not in accordance with HUD regulations when they offered

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plaintiff the contract because it was an attempt to coerce and intimidate plaintiff out of his apartment, and terminate his tenancy.

- 34. Thereafter, on or about May 5, 2006, upon not signing the subject written contract presented by defendants, defendants formally served plaintiff with the unlawful detainer Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the serving of the summons and complaint was in retaliation for (1) Plaintiff exercising his right as a tenant to retain possession of the premises, (2) Plaintiff exercising his right to a reasonable accommodation, (3) Plaintiff's refusal to sign the written contract violating HUD rules and regulations, (4) Plaintiff's informing fellow tenants of their rights and exposing Defendants' illegal actions, and (5) Plaintiff's complaints about harassment from the agents and employees of Defendants. This constitutes the fourth act of retaliation.
- 35. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendants' reason to evict - which was for plaintiffs' nonparticipation in defendants case management services is a cover-up, and an invalid reason, in that, defendant's manipulated "case management services" and used it as a pretext to mask their discriminatory intent. The defendants used it as a cover-up to unlawfully evict plaintiff and other tenants/veterans who are residing in defendant's transitional housing program, in the event defendants could not legally evict plaintiff and other tenant/veterans for any other reason. The Defendants' primary motive for evicting the tenant/veterans is to ensure that they have vacated the premises prior to their twenty four (24) rent subsidy from the VA expiring. Plaintiff alleges that the defendants use these methods because they find it easier than doing their duties, rather than, using the proper procedures to assist the veterans to transcend to a permanent housing situation, as they are required to do, and funded by the government and private sources to do. It has become a habitual procedure for defendants to use these tactics. The defendants use the veterans to obtain their funding for their

program, but then deprive the veterans by illegally evicting them before their twenty-four (24) month subsidy expires. The defendants coerce the tenant/veterans out of their apartments because they are afraid that the tenant/veterans will overstay their 24 month term., and/or in retaliation when the tenant/veteran exercises their constitutional rights to stay after the defendants attempt to force them out of their apartments prior to their VA subsidy ending, among other things. Once the defendants inform the tenant/veteran he has to leave without good cause and prior to his term ending, and the tenant/veteran then refuses to leave and exercises his right to remain in possession of the premises, the defendants retaliate by serving termination notices and unlawful detainers. This is how the defendants manage to force the tenant/veterans out, which helps them to manage their program pursuant to their unfair discretion. The defendants are not allowed by law to evict the tenant/veteran or any tenant illegally. Therefore, plaintiff claims that his purported "non-participation" in case management services was not defendant's primary motive to evict plaintiff. Defendants first primary motive to evict plaintiff was defendants; (1) wanting plaintiff to vacate the premises prior to or by the end of the twentyfour month term in which the Veterans Administration (VA) agrees to subsidize the plaintiff's rent; (plaintiff being a U.S. Veteran residing in defendant's housing and participating in defendant's VA supported Transitional housing program). (2) Defendants second primary motive to evict plaintiff was defendants anger and retaliation against plaintiff; for plaintiff exercising his rights to retain possession of the premises, under his lease, and pursuant to §1942.5(a). (3) Defendants also knew they issued plaintiff a month-to month lease with no limitation on the length of his term, and for the reasons herein, among other things, defendants were desperate to recover possession of the premises, and initiated unlawful actions against plaintiff to do so, mainly because they wanted plaintiff to stop exposing their illegal evictions and informing other tenants of their rights. Defendants were afraid because plaintiff's lease was month to month, it

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would be harder to evict him, and they simply just wanted to get rid of him, because in their mind, plaintiff was a trouble maker.

- 36. Defendants also knew that they could legally recover possession of the premises after plaintiff's twenty-four month rent subsidy from the VA expired. Defendants instead harassed plaintiff and attempted to force and/or coerce plaintiff out of the premises, prior to his twenty-four month subsidy ending. Defendant's actions were in retaliation against plaintiff, because he stated that he would exercise his rights as a tenant, including his right to stay, among other things. Defendants then continued to retaliate against plaintiff when he exercised his right to stay.
- 37. Defendants also knew that even if plaintiff was bound by any provision in his lease to participate in defendant's Case Management Services Program, defendants could not evict plaintiff on those grounds because it would be deemed by HUD rules and regulations as a minor violation. According to HUD Occupancy Handbook 4350.3 REV-1, Chapter 8, Section 3: Termination of Tenancy by Owners, 8-13, (4.), in order for a tenant residing in a PHA to be evicted for a minor violation, the violation to warrant the eviction must be repeated numerous times, and documented with signed notices and or agreements as serious enough to warrant his eviction. Defendants failed to adhere to the rules and regulations of HUD, and California Federal Regulations because they moved to evict plaintiff on these grounds by filing the unlawful detainer action against plaintiff, prior to exhausting other required remedies. Defendants knew that if the plaintiff was bound by the provision, plaintiff did not commit the required acts to justify "non participation" or it did anything serious enough to warrant his eviction. It is a misrepresentation of material fact, to lead plaintiff to believe he can be evicted because he failed to participate, when he in actuality did participate, and/or did not do anything considered to be "non participating. Plaintiff is also informed believes and therefore alleges that between 2004 and 2006, defendants filled approximately 20-25 unlawful detainer

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against the tenant/veterans residing at Dignity commons, some allegedly for non-participation in case management services.

- 38. Plaintiff alleges that defendant's retaliatory acts included fraud and intentional deceit because defendants not only attempted to evict plaintiff for retaliatory reasons, defendants also utilized fraudulent and deceitful means in their attempt to evict plaintiff from his apartment or from the premises located at 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Alameda, CA.
- 39. Plaintiff alleges that defendants evicting him on the grounds they claimed were invalid, and defendants leading plaintiff to believe he could be evicted on those grounds, when he could not be, is a misrepresentation or representation, and of which is just one part of a series of representations or misrepresentations in this case.
- 40. Defendants informing plaintiff that he was in violation of his lease for nonparticipation in case management services, and that he was to be evicted on those grounds, and on the grounds that his tenancy was limited to eighteen months, was a misrepresentation of material fact, made with the intent to deceive and defraud plaintiff into believing that he was wrong and defendants had a legal right to evict him.
- 41. Defendants also insisted that plaintiff's lease did contain a contract or provision requiring him to participate in case management services, and did contain an eighteen month limitation on his tenancy, when in actuality they knew it did not.
- 42. Plaintiff entered into an agreement (a lease and contract) with defendants that did not include any provision requiring him to participate in case management services, (as that provision was included in some of the other tenants leases residing at Dignity Commons). Defendants can not include that provision in plaintiff's lease by writing it in or verbally implying that it is in his lease, nor evict plaintiff on those grounds, especially after both parties signed a contract that did not include that provision initially.

43. On or ab July 5, 2006, during plaintiff's pre tri. Inference regarding the unlawful detainer action filed against plaintiff as alleged in this complaint, defendants presented a fraudulent lease to plaintiff and plaintiff's attorney that plaintiff did not sign or was bound to. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004, and contained provisions requiring plaintiff to participate in defendants' case management services program, and limited his tenancy to eighteen months.

- despicable conduct done with malice. Defendants attempted to defraud and deceive plaintiff, his attorney and the court, as this was an intentional misrepresentation of material fact. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004, when in actuality there was never any lease executed between plaintiff and defendants on August 17, 2004, or any other time. The only lease ever executed between defendants and plaintiff was the lease agreement on June 28, 2004, and dated June 28, 2004. Plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, but executed the lease on June 28, 2004.
- 45. Thereafter, on or about July 5, 2006, at the commencement of plaintiff's preconference settlement, defendants agreed to dismiss the subject unlawful detainer complaint
 against plaintiff, although, plaintiff discovered months later that the defendants informed the
 court on July 5, 2006 that they were going to file a dismissal in plaintiff's behalf regarding the
 unlawful detainer complaint defendants filed against him, Defendants did not file the dismissal.
 This action is yet another intentional misrepresentation, in that, it was a promise made with no
 intention of keeping
- 46. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants, and each of them, failed to terminate his tenancy prior to defendants filing the unlawful detainer action against plaintiff. Defendants proceeded to unlawfully evict plaintiff, knowing such action was unlawful and without legal merit, and defendants did not follow due process to evict plaintiff.

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- 47. Defendants want to be perceived as "good corporate citizens' who help homeless veterans when in actuality Defendants are deceiving and defrauding the veterans that participate in their programs, and Defendants are also deceiving and defrauding the VA and the public. Defendants are using homeless U.S. Veterans to obtain funding from the government, public and private sources, but the veterans are being subjected to intentional discrimination and being deprived and denied the full benefits and reasonable accommodations they are entitled to from the Defendants' program.
- 48. Defendants attempt to recover possession from plaintiff violated the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617, as defendants terminated plaintiff's tenancy in retaliation for his exercising his legal rights regarding tenancy. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to statutory damages, costs and an award of attorney fees.
- 49. As a direct and proximate result of the retaliatory actions of defendants, and each of them, plaintiff was required to retain an attorney to represent him in the unlawful detainer action at a cost of \$200.00.
- As a further direct and proximate result of defendants' outrageous conduct, 50. plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great anxiety, mental anguish, embarrassment, anger, and loss of enjoyment of life, injury to reputation, humiliation and severe emotional distress in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 51. The retaliatory actions of defendants, as alleged in this complaint were oppressive and malicious within the meaning of Civil Code section §3294 in that such actions constituted despicable conduct which subjected plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship and a willful and conscious disregard for plaintiff's rights and safety hereby entitling Plaintiff to an award of exemplary and punitive damages pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. §3613 (c) (1).
- 52. Plaintiff is entitled to recover prevailing party attorney's fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. §3613 (c) (2) and by other statutory entitlements.

them, as more fully set forth below.

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SECOND COUNT

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of

Failure to Reasonably Accommodate

Violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B)

THREE VIOLATIONS

Against all Defendants

First Violation

- 53. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 52 as though fully set forth herein.
- 54. Defendants retaliatory and other illegal actions to attempt to evict Plaintiff from the premises, upon Plaintiff exercising his constitutional rights to remain in possession of the premises, interfered with the exercise of Plaintiff's constitutional rights, in that plaintiff was denied a reasonable accommodation.
- 55. Statute 42 U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B) a refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling
- 56. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by Defendants on the basis of his disability, violating 42U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B, as this constitutes the first violation. Specifically, Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination because of Plaintiff's personal characteristic: being a mentally disabled, homeless veteran. Defendants' actions attempting to unlawfully evict Plaintiff dictate; Defendants failing to reasonably accommodate plaintiff due to his disability. Defendants knew plaintiff was on disability and knew that by attempting to illegally evict him they were failing to reasonably accommodate him. Plaintiff was determined unfit to work due to a mental/psychological injury he endured from his employer between February and March 2006, and on April 4, 2006, he was

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certified by his doctor to receive state disability payments. Although the defendants filed the Unlawful Detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006, they did not serve the summons and UD action until May 5, 2006. Defendants received information that plaintiff was receiving state disability prior to May 5, 2006 from various numerous communications, but still proceeded to evict plaintiff.

- 57. Defendants took advantage of, or abused plaintiff while he was mentally disabled and a homeless veteran. The Defendants did not anticipate that Plaintiff would discover and uncover Defendants' illegal discriminatory and retaliatory acts, nor did Defendants expect Plaintiff to first; realize what his rights were and second; fully exercise his rights to remain in possession of the premises. Defendants expected plaintiff not to be able to know how to defend himself because of his mental disability and at the time his "mentally depressed state of mind" and/or his psychological vulnerability and emotional stress due to his homeless status.
- 58. Plaintiff alleges that the defendants considered him a second class citizen and one who can not afford to properly defend himself. Defendants expected plaintiff to vacate the premises without resisting, due to the reasons mentioned above, and the harassment that the Defendants were subjecting plaintiff too. The Defendants profiled Plaintiff as under-privileged and a depressed victim that is unfocused. Defendants were depending on Plaintiff being without financial resources, down and in such a depressed state of mind that Plaintiff will not be able to or know how to pursue his legal rights.
- 59. When the defendants attempted to evict plaintiff without proper causeand without following due process, they violated the FHA, because they refused to make a reasonably accommodation in their rules, policies, practices and services when they could have or should have, as it was necessary to afford plaintiff, as a handicapped person, an equal opportunity to the use and enjoyment of his apartment. Pursuant to 24CFRCh.IX 966.7(a) (b), A PHA such as Operation Dignity, Inc. is required to provide a notice to each tenant that the tenant may, at

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any time during the tenancy, request reasonable accommodation of a handicapped household member, including reasonable accommodation so that the tenant can meet lease requirements or other requirements of tenancy. Plaintiff never received such notice neither did any other of the tenant/veterans, and was denied the right to know he was entitled to a reasonable accomodation.

- 60. The defendants are a Public Housing Assistance Program, and it is funded by the Veterans Administration, and public and private sources, therefore, Operation Dignity (especially) must follow due process pursuant to government and state laws when terminating their tenancies. The defendants are in a position where they must not fail to reasonably accommodate any disabled tenants. It was not necessary for the defendants to evict plaintiff before his two year subsidy from the VA expired, nor did they have the right to evict plaintiff for the reasons that they did. Defendants knew plaintiff was receiving state disability payments and not working because of his disability. Pursuant to 24 CFR ChVIII 880.603(c), a PHA is required to reexamine the income and composition of all families at least every twelve months, which means they have a responsibility to know the status and source of their tenant's income.
- 61. Defendants also knew that they could legally recover possession of the premises after plaintiff's twenty-four month rent subsidy from the VA expired. Defendants instead harassed plaintiff and attempted to force and/or coerce him out of the premises, prior to his twenty-four month subsidy ending.
- 62. Defendants receive over sixty-five (65%) of plaintiff's monthly rent from the VA which the VA pays for at least 24 months. The balance is paid by plaintiff. The defendants would not have been affected financially by allowing plaintiff to remain in his apartment, at least until his two year subsidy had expired.
- 63. Defendants insisted on terminating his tenancy for retaliatory reasons and ignored his mental disability. The defendants were willing to evict plaintiff regardless of his disabled position. Defendants' actions also aggravated plaintiff's already "mentally depressed state",

during that time. This demonstrates the defendants "conscious disregard of the rights and safety of others".

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Second Violation

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Failure to Reasonably Accommodate

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64. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by defendants on the basis of his "Handicapped Homeless Veteran" status,

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violating 42U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B), as this constitutes the second violation.

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65. Plaintiff alleges and therefore believes that because he was a "homeless veteran", he is part of a group that is in a "protected class, due to homeless veterans being classified as

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handicapped under the FHAA. See 42 U.S.C. § 3602(h) (defining "handicap"). Defendants' acts

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constitute another form of arbitrary discrimination against plaintiff and other (handicapped)

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homeless veterans, as defendants discriminated against them by failing to reasonably

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accommodate them when they illegally evicted plaintiff and the other tenant/veterans in their

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"handicapped homeless status".

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66. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges and therefore that he and

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the other Tenant veterans are considered handicapped and meet the requirements above as being

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qualified as handicapped under the FHAA. Plaintiff and other tenant/veterans have received

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disparate and discriminatory treatment from defendants compared to treatment of tenants in other

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PHA's, as the disparate treatment has a discriminatory effect on homeless handicapped veterans.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of

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them, as more fully set forth below.

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THIRD COUNT

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Violation of Section 794 of the Fair Housing and Rehabilitation Act; Violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B)

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Third Violation of Failure to Reasonably Accommodate

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Against all Defendants

- 67. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 66 as though fully set forth herein.
- 68. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the defendants violated Section 794 of the Fair Housing Act and Rehabilitation Act ("Rehab Act") which provides, in relevant part, that no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, [**19] [*800] solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by any Executive agency or by the United States Postal Service.
- 69. 29 U.S.C. § 794(a) (1996). The Rehab Act defines "qualified individual with a disability" as one who " (i) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities (ii) has a record of such an impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having such an impairment." 29 U.S.C. § 706(8)(B).
- 70. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendants violating the Rehab Act is also a violation of 42 U.S.C.A. §3604 3 (B), failing to reasonably accommodate.
- 71. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that he and the other Tenant veterans are considered handicapped and meet the requirements above as being qualified as handicapped under the FHAA. Plaintiff and other tenant/veterans have received disparate and discriminatory treatment from defendants compared to treatment of tenants in other PHA's, as the disparate treatment has a discriminatory effect on homeless handicapped veterans.
- 72 Defendants also knew that they could legally recover possession of the premises after plaintiff's twenty-four month rent subsidy from the VA expired. Defendants instead harassed plaintiff by attempting to force and/or coerce him out of the premises, prior to his twenty-four month subsidy ending.
 - 73. Defendants' program is federally assisted and defendants receive over sixty-five

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(65%) of the plaintiff's monthly rent from the VA, which the VA pays for at least 24 months. The balance is paid by the plaintiff. The defendants would not have been affected financially by allowing plaintiff to remain in his apartment, at least until his two years had expired.

74. Defendants insisted on terminating plaintiff's tenancy for retaliatory reasons and ignored his disability status. The defendants were willing to evict plaintiff regardless of his disabled and homeless status. Defendants' actions also aggravated plaintiff's already "mentally depressed state", during that time. This demonstrates the defendants "conscious disregard of the rights and safety of others".

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

FOURTH COUNT

Due Process Violations pursuant to PHA under Housing Act., 42 U.S.C.A §1983; United States Housing Act of 1937, §2, as amended, 42 U.S.C.A §1437

FOUR VIOLATIONS

Against all Defendants

- 75. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 74 as though full set forth herein.
- 76. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that the defendants violated plaintiff 5th and 14th amendment rights of due process, violating 42 U.S.C.A §1983; United States Housing Act of 1937, §2, as amended, 42 U.S.C.A §1437.
- 77. Specifically; defendants did not follow proper procedures to terminate plaintiff's tenancy, committing four violations of due process, which include the following. (1) Defendants are guilty of serving Plaintiff an improper 30 day termination notice, as alleged in this complaint, as this act constitutes the first violation. The 30 day termination notice omitted the clause informing Plaintiff that he has a ten day opportunity to grieve and/or resolve the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFR CHVIII, 880.60 (C),

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Defendant's attempt to submit the fraudulent lease as plaintiff's lease to the court 78. was despicable conduct done with malice. Defendants attempted to defraud and deceive plaintiff, his attorney and the court, as this was an intentional misrepresentation of material fact. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004, when in actuality there was never any lease executed between plaintiff and defendants on August 17, 2004, or any other time. The only lease even executed between defendants and plaintiff was the lease agreement on June 28, 2004, and dated June 28, 2004. Plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, but executed the lease on June 28, 2004.

- 79. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's interference with Plaintiff's constitutional rights and full and equal accommodation and service in Defendants' business establishment by Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered general damages in an amount to be determined at proof at trial.
- As a further direct and proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, 80. Plaintiff is in addition entitled to recover all statutory civil penalties.
- 81. The above related actions of the defendants were done with malice, fraud or oppression and in reckless disregard of the Plaintiff's rights. Specifically, (1) Defendants knew that their actions and conduct were despicable and was intended to cause injury to Plaintiff. Defendants were willful and conscious, knowing that Plaintiff had a right to remain in possession of the premises, and had a right not to participate in Defendant's case management services program, therefore, Defendants knew that they had failed to state a cause of action to evict plaintiff, prior to defendants filing the Unlawful Detainer action against Plaintiff. Defendants knew that they were subjecting Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship, in conscious disregard of plaintiff's rights. Defendants also knew that they were especially subject to and were violating federal and state housing laws because they are a PHA program receiving public and federal funds participating in a VA subsidized housing program.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

FIFTH COUNT

[Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing] Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c) Against all Defendants

- 82. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 81 as though full set forth herein.
- 83. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that in assuming the landlord-tenant contracted relationship with Plaintiff, Defendants covenanted to deal with Plaintiff in good faith.
- 84. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that Defendants committed a breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing with Plaintiff, which covenant is implied into every residential rental contract in California.
- By reason of the Defendants actions as alleged herein, including but not limited to Defendants unlawful efforts to evict Plaintiff, all in a concerted effort to recover possession of Plaintiff's home, is in violation of 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c). Damages action under Fair Housing Act sounds basically in tort; statute merely defines new legal duty; and authorizes courts to compensate plaintiff for injury caused by defendants' wrongful breach. Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c).
- 36 The defendants entered into a contract with plaintiff in the form of a month to month lease, and violated the covenants of good faith and fair dealing when they used unlawful means to evict plaintiff, such as, (1) serving plaintiff an improper 30 day termination notice, as alleged in this complaint. The 30 day termination notice omitted the clause informing plaintiff that he had a ten day opportunity to grieve and/or resolve the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFR CHVIII, 880.607©, FEHA Section 12955,

24CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(ii), Civil Codes 52(a), 52.1(a), 52.1(b), and (2)Defendants are guilty of denying plaintiff his entitled grievance hearing to discuss the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(iv), FEHA 12955(f), Civil Code 52(a) and (3) Defendant's offering of the written contract, as alleged in this complaint, and retaliation against plaintiff upon him not signing and agreeing to Defendant's written contract, this act was meant to intimidate and coerce plaintiff into waiving his constitutional rights, and unjustly terminate his tenancy, and 4) When the defendants attempted to submit a fraudulent lease in court it was a despicable act, in that, the purpose was to deny plaintiff the opportunity to exercise his rights under his true lease, and terminate his tenancy illegally, and 5) the defendants are guilty of evicting plaintiff for a invalid and fraudulent reason.

- 87. Due to the breach being tortious in nature, plaintiff is entitled to emotional stress, economic and punitive damages.
- 88. As a direct and proximate result of said breach, Plaintiff has suffered the actual, special and general damages as alleged, and which are incorporated herein by this reference, and seek recovery of the same, and for an award of costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- 89. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the endeavor to recover possession of the premises by Defendants was in conscious disregard of the Plaintiff's legal rights, and was willful, oppressive, and malicious; and designed to cause Plaintiff to suffer economic and emotional injury. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages against Defendants, in an amount to be determined at trial.

Wherefore Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

SIXTH COUNT

Breach of Contract

Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c)

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Against all Defendants

- 90. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 89 as fully set forth herein.
- By illegally attempting to evict plaintiff, for retaliatory reasons, as well as using 91. fraudulent and deceitful means, and by discriminating against plaintiff, defendants, and each of them, have breached their contract with plaintiff, violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c), 42 U.S.C.A. §3617, as it was another interference of plaintiff's rights.
- 92. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that the defendants breached their contract with him when they wrongfully evicted plaintiff and discriminated against him, as plaintiff had a lease agreement with the defendants.
- 93. Section 7. DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED of plaintiff's lease with the defendants state: "The Owner and its agent agree not to discriminate upon, race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, handicap, membership in a class, such as unmarried mothers or fathers, or recipients of public assistance, or because there are children in the family.
- 94. Section 9 TERMINATION OF TENANCY of plaintiff's lease with the defendants' states: " Any termination of this Agreement by the agent must be carried out in accordance with APC Property Management Standards, HUD regulations, state and local laws, and the terms of this agreement."
- 95. As the result of defendants' breach of contract, plaintiff has suffered damages as alleged herein. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages against defendants, in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 96 .Wherefore plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

SEVENTH COUNT

Violating the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 307(7)(B), 42 U.S.C.A. 1218(7)(B) Against all Defendants

- 97. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 96 as though fully set forth herein.
- 98. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by Defendants on the basis of his disability, violating the Americans with Disabilities

 Act of 1990, 307(7)(B), 42 U.S.C.A. 1218(7)(B) and 42U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B) refusing to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling.
- 99. Specifically, Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination because of Plaintiff's personal characteristic: being a mentally disabled, homeless veteran. Defendants' actions attempting to unlawfully evict Plaintiff dictate; Defendants failing to reasonably accommodate plaintiff due to his disability. Defendants knew plaintiff was on disability and knew that by attempting to illegally evict him they were failing to reasonably accommodate him. Plaintiff was determined unfit to work due to a mental/psychological injury he endured from his employer between February and March 2006, and on April 4, 2006, he was certified by his doctor to receive state disability payments. Although the defendants filed the Unlawful Detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006, they did not serve the summons and UD action until May 5, 2006. Defendants received information that plaintiff was receiving state disability prior to May 5, 2006 from various numerous communications, but still proceeded to evict plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

EIGHTH COUNT

<u>Violation of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act (Ill. Rev. Stat.</u>

1979: ch 121 1/2 par.262)due to

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Violating the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 307(7)(B), 42 U.S.C.A. 1218(7)(B) and the Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617, Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c), 42 U.S.C.A. §3617,

Against all Defendants

- 100. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 99 as though fully set forth herein.
- 101. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that due to the defendants being classified as a Business establishment under the Unruh Civil Rights Act and defendants committing multiple violations of the FHAA against plaintiff and other tenant/veterans, defendants' violated the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Practices Act.
- 102. Plaintiff and other tenant/veterans have received disparate and discriminatory treatment from defendants compared to treatment of tenants in other PHA's, as the disparate treatment has a discriminatory effect on homeless handicapped veterans.
- Development, the Veterans Administration, U.S. States Veterans, and the Alameda Superior Court, by initiating an ongoing pattern of intentional discrimination against U.S. Veterans.

 Defendants manipulated HUD's and its PHA's required self sufficiency program, committed fraudulent and retaliatory evictions against U.S. veterans, and violating due process laws, among other things.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

NINTH COUNT

[Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress]
Violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c)
Against all Defendants

104. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in

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paragraphs 1 through 102 as though fully set forth herein.

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105. Defendant's continued retaliatory actions to attempt to evict Plaintiff as alleged in this complaint were knowing, intentional and willful and done with reckless disregard of the probability of causing plaintiff emotional distress.

106. As a proximate result of defendant's conduct, as alleged in this complaint, Plaintiff suffered extreme mental anguish and emotional distress in the form of humiliation, mental anguish, anxiety, worry, disappointment and alienation that interfered with Plaintiff's quiet enjoyment. Plaintiff was worried and anxious about whether he was going to lose his home. The acts of defendants injured plaintiff in mind and body, violating the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c), which allows FHA plaintiff in private action to seek actual and punitive damages which include damages for emotional distress, humiliation, and mental anguish.

The retaliatory actions of the Defendants, as alleged in this complaint were 107. oppressive, malicious and outrageous, and were done in reckless conscious disregard of plaintiff's rights and safety. The defendants' acts were intentional violations of federal law. The defendants were standing in a position of authority over Plaintiff, and acted with the intent to damage plaintiff and to cause Plaintiff severe emotional and physical distress. Defendants abused the Landlord/Tenant relationship with plaintiff. Defendant's conduct was done knowingly and willfully in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 813 (c) as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. §3613(c) Civil Rights 275(1) California Civil Code §, 42 U.S.C.A §1983; United States Housing Act of 1937, §2, as amended, 42 U.S.C.A §1437, Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3604 3(B), Civil Rights Act of 1968, § 817, 42 U.S.C.A. §3617, California Civil Code 1942.5, Civil Codes §51, §51(f), §52, §52(a), §52.1(a), §52.1(b), FEHA §12955(f), FEHA §12955(I), FEHA §12955(d), FEHA §12955(o), B&P 17200, 24 CFR CHVIII,

880.607(c), 24CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(ii), among other violations, and Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be determined by proof at trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below:

- 1. For general damages, including emotional distress, according to proof;
- 2. For statutory penalties and all relief allowed by statute according to proof;
- 3. For punitive damages;
- 4. For an award of attorney's fees;
- 5. For pre-judgment interest at the legal rate according to proof;
- 6. For costs of suit incurred;
- 7. For such other and further relief as the court may deem proper.

Dated: Sapet 20, 2007

Mark Antoine Foster, In pro per

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EXHIBIT "B"

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has continued in possession since that date.

2. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY, INC. (hereafter "OPERATION DIGNITY") is a California non-profit corporation with its principal office located at 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California. Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY owns, operates, leases, or manages that certain apartment building located at 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Alameda, California, which is commonly known as "Dignity Commons." Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY is Plaintiff's landlord.

Alameda, California. Plaintiff took possession of his apartment on or about August 17, 2004 and

- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant ALEX McELREE, an individual, is the owner, officer, director, employee, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.
- 4. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, a unity of interest and ownership between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE such that any individuality and separateness between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE, as owner, officer, director, or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY, has ceased. Defendants are the alter egos of one another.
- 5. Adherence to the fiction of separate existence between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE as entities distinct from one another would permit an abuse of the corporate privilege and would sanction fraud or promote injustice in that it would prevent Plaintiff from pursuing claims for damages from all parties responsible for his injuries.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant WILLIAM KENNEDY, an individual, was the employee, partner, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.

- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant LINDA GRIFFITH, an individual, was the employee, partner, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. Her principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.
- 8. Plaintiff does not know the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 50 and therefore sues them by their fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint when their true names and capacities are ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged and that Plaintiff's damages as herein alleged were proximally caused by these defendants. Each reference in this complaint to "Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY," "Defendant McELREE," "Defendant KENNEDY," "Defendant GRIFFITH," "Defendant," "Defendants," or a specifically named defendant refers also to all defendants sued under fictitious names.
- 9. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant was the agent, employee, partner, independent contractor, or joint venturer of each other defendant and was acting within the scope and authority of such relationship. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the defendants herein consented to, ratified, and authorized the acts herein alleged of each of the remaining defendants.
- 10. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant operated and managed Dignity Commons and maintained control of Dignity Commons.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION [Retaliatory Eviction pursuant to §1942.5 (c)] Against all Defendants

- 11. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 10 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 12. This is an unlawful eviction matter stemming from defendants filing an unlawful detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006.

- 13. Plaintiff brings this action as an affirmative cause of action for retaliatory eviction pursuant to section §1942.5(c) of the California Civil Code for; being retaliated against by defendants for plaintiff organizing and advocating lessee's rights, and informing other tenants of those rights, and for peaceably exercising his own rights under the law to retain possession of his apartment, among other things.
- 14. California Civil Code section §1942.5 and common law, allows a tenant to bring forth two separate causes of action in an unlawful detainer action, in that, §1942.5(a) allows a tenant to, (1) bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense in a unlawful detainer action, and §1942.5(c) allows a tenant to (2) bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action, in that they are two separate causes of action, entitling a tenant to remedies and damages that are distinct and individual from each other, and for each cause of action.
- 15. California Civil Code §1942.5 (h) states "The remedies provided by this section shall be in addition to any other remedies provided by statutory or decisional law".
- unlawful detainer actions against plaintiff's tenancy with defendants, defendants filed two (2) unlawful detainer actions against plaintiff, in both proceedings plaintiff brought forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense, in order to retain possession of his apartment. The first unlawful detainer action, case number AG06262593 was filed on March 30, 2006 and was for plaintiff's purported nonparticipation in case management services. On or about July 5, 2006, during and at the commencement of plaintiff's pre-trial conference, defendants agreed to dismiss the case against plaintiff, and plaintiff retained possession of the premises at 2300 Moonlight Terrace in Alameda, California. The second unlawful detainer action, case number AG06279183 was filed on July 14-2006 and was for plaintiff's alleged nonpayment of rent. At the commencement of plaintiff's pre-trial conference, defendants agreed to waive plaintiff's back rent from June 2006, if plaintiff would agree to vacate the premises by January 31, 2007.

COMPLAINT

Defendants' reason for terminating plaintiff's lease was that plaintiff's rent subsidy from the VA expired. Plaintiff agreed to vacate. A stipulation regarding Dismissal/Judgment was agreed upon by both defendants and plaintiff, resolving the rent and tenancy issues related to this unlawful detainer action. This agreement settled the matter of plaintiff's retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense, pursuant to §1942.5(a).

- 17. California Civil Code §1942.5(f)(1)(2) states "Any lessor or agent of a lessor who violates this section shall be liable to the lessee in a civil action for all of the following: (1) The actual damages sustained by lessee, and (2) Punitive damages in amount of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each retaliatory act where the lessor or agent has been guilty of fraud, oppression, or malice with respect to that act", (this being a remedy for plaintiff, for defendants violating §1942.5(a)).
- 18. Plaintiff alleges that, during the time of his tenancy, and at the commencement of plaintiff's pre-conference settlements, relative to both unlawful detainer proceedings, plaintiff did not enter into any agreements to waive his rights to bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action, pursuant to section §1942.5(c). Plaintiff brought forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense in both proceedings, pursuant to section §1942.5(a).
- 19. California Civil Code §1942.5(d) states "Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting in any way the exercise by the lessor of his or her rights under any lease or agreement or any law pertaining to the hiring of property or his or her right to do any of the acts described in subdivision (a) or (c) for any lawful cause. Any waiver by a lessee of his or her rights under this section is void as contrary to public policy".
- 20. Furthermore, plaintiff alleges that res judicata would not apply to this case, and this cause of action would not be barred by res judicata, because plaintiff is not "splitting" a cause of action; due to plaintiff having two causes of action to claim, (1) retaliatory

- 21. Plaintiff also alleges that this cause of action would not be barred by collateral estoppel, in that, plaintiff is not relitigating the issue of retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense. Plaintiff is litigating the new issue of retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action.
- 22. On or about June 28, 2004, plaintiff entered into a written rental agreement with defendants by the terms of which defendants rented the premises to plaintiff on a month-to-month tenancy at the rental rate of \$225.00 per month, payable monthly on the first day of each and every month, commencing on June 28, 2004.
- 23. Under the terms of the rental agreement, plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, and has continued in possession of his apartment since August 17, 2004.
- 24. Plaintiff was not during the period of his tenancy in default as to the payment of rent.
- On or about December 15, 2005, plaintiff was informed by defendants, and each of them, that his tenancy would be terminated in March 2006 due to plaintiff's purported "nonparticipation in case management services," a program offered by defendants' transitional housing program. Plaintiff opposed defendants' termination of his tenancy because, among other things, his lease contained no provision requiring plaintiff's participation in such program. Plaintiff so informed defendants, that his lease contained no provision requiring him to participate in such case management services program. Plaintiff further informed defendants that he has a legal right as a tenant to retain possession of his apartment.

- 26. On or about February 16, 2006, defendants, and each of them, served plaintiff with a thirty (30) day termination notice to quit the premises on or about March 17, 2006. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the subject 30 day termination notice to quit was in retaliation for plaintiff opposing defendants' actions to evict him, and for informing defendants that he will exercise his legal right as a tenant to remain in possession of the premises. This constitutes the first act of retaliation.
- 27. Thereafter, when plaintiff did not vacate the premises on or about March 17, 2006, defendants filed an unlawful detainer action against plaintiff on March 30, 2006. However, defendants did not serve the summons on plaintiff. Plaintiff received notice from this Superior Court, County of Alameda, notifying plaintiff that an unlawful detainer action had been filed against him. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the filing of the subject unlawful detainer action and notice received by plaintiff was in retaliation for plaintiff not vacating the premises, and was meant to intimidate and harass plaintiff out of his apartment. This constitutes the second act of retaliation.
- 28. Thereafter, on or about May 3, 2006, defendants offered plaintiff a written contract that would have allowed plaintiff to remain in possession of the premises for an additional ninety (90) days if plaintiff would agree to reimburse defendants for the legal costs incurred by defendants to file the subject unlawful detainer action. Such action humiliated plaintiff because it was unreasonable and violated HUD rules. Such action would diminish plaintiff's constitutional rights if plaintiff signed the written contract. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the written contract was unconstitutional, and he could not afford to pay the three hundred dollar (\$300.00) legal costs to reimburse defendants for the unlawful detainer action.
- 29. Thereafter, on or about May 5, 2006, upon not signing the subject written contract presented by defendants, defendants formally served plaintiff with the unlawful detainer

plaintiff was defendants; (1) wanting plaintiff to vacate the premises prior to or by the end of the

plaintiff's rent; (plaintiff being a U.S. Veteran residing in defendant's housing and participating

twenty-four month term in which the Veterans Administration (VA) agrees to subsidize the

in defendant's VA supported Transitional housing program). (2) Defendants second primary motive to evict plaintiff was defendants anger and retaliation against plaintiff; for plaintiff exercising his rights to retain possession of the premises, under his lease, and pursuant to §1942.5(a). (3) Defendants also knew they issued plaintiff a month-to month lease with no limitation on the length of his term, and for the reasons herein, among other things, defendants were desperate to recover possession of the premises, and initiated unlawful actions against plaintiff to do so. Defendants also knew that they could legally recover possession of the premises after plaintiff's twenty-four month rent subsidy from the VA expired. Defendants instead harassed plaintiff and attempted to force and/or coerce plaintiff out of the premises, prior to his twenty-four month subsidy ending.

31. Thereafter, on or about July 5, 2006, at the commencement of plaintiff's pre-

- 31. Thereafter, on or about July 5, 2006, at the commencement of plaintiff's preconference settlement, defendants agreed to dismiss the subject unlawful detainer complaint against Plaintiff.
- 32. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants, and each of them, failed to terminate plaintiff's tenancy prior to defendants filing the unlawful detainer action against plaintiff. Defendants proceeded to unlawfully evict plaintiff, knowing such action was unlawful and without legal merit, and defendants did not follow due process to evict plaintiff.
- 33. Defendants attempt to recover possession from plaintiff violated Civil Code §1942.5 as defendants terminated plaintiff's tenancy in retaliation for his exercising his legal rights regarding tenancy. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to statutory damages, costs and an award of attorney fees.

- 34. As a direct and proximate result of the retaliatory actions of defendants, and each of them, plaintiff was required to retain an attorney to represent him in the unlawful detainer action at a cost of \$200.00.
- 35. As a further direct and proximate result of defendants' outrageous conduct, plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great anxiety, embarrassment, anger, loss of enjoyment of life, injury to reputation, and severe emotional distress in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 36. The retaliatory actions of defendants, as alleged in this complaint were oppressive and malicious within the meaning of Civil Code section §3294 in that such actions constituted despicable conduct which subjected plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship and a willful and conscious disregard for plaintiff's rights and safety hereby entitling Plaintiff to an award of exemplary and punitive damages.
- 37. Plaintiff is entitled to recover prevailing party attorney's fees pursuant to California Civil Code section §1942.5(g), and by other statutory entitlements.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

[Interference with Exercise of Unruh Civil Rights] Against all Defendants

- 38. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 37 as though fully set forth herein.
- 39. Defendants retaliatory and other illegal actions to attempt to evict Plaintiff from the premises, upon Plaintiff exercising his constitutional right to remain in possession of the premises, interfered with the exercise of Plaintiff's civil rights.

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40. The Unruh Civil Rights Act provides that all persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever.

Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was subject to

- arbitrary discrimination by Defendants violating sections 1942.5(c), Civil Codes 52.1(a), 52.1(b), FEHA 12955(f). Specifically, Operation Dignity is a transitional housing program servicing U.S. Veterans. Operation Dignity is also a Public Housing Assistance program (PHA) governed by federal and state law. The veterans enrolled in the program receive funding from the VA to help subsidize their rents. The program issues most of the veterans enrolled in the program an 18-24 month lease with a provision requiring the veteran to participate in the program's "case management services program." Defendants issued Plaintiff a month-to-month lease without requiring him to participate in Defendants' case management service program. Defendants have previously and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff because he possesses said lease, and because he is exercising his rights as a tenant under his lease, among other things. Defendants also knew the lease they issued Plaintiff, as alleged in this complaint, did not contain a provision requiring Plaintiff to participate in Defendants' case management services program. Therefore Defendants knew they had failed to state a case of action to properly evict plaintiff, but still proceeded to do so. Plaintiff exercised his legal rights as a tenant under state, federal and local law to remain in possession of the premises.
- 42. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by Defendants on the basis of his disability, violating FEHA section 12955, Civil Codes 51(f), 52(a). Specifically, Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination because of Plaintiff's personal characteristic: being a mentally disabled, homeless veteran. Defendants' actions attempting to unlawfully evict Plaintiff dictate; Defendants failing to reasonably accommodate

plaintiff due to his disability or taking advantage of, or abusing plaintiff because he is mentall
disabled and a homeless veteran. The Defendants did not anticipate that Plaintiff would discove
and uncover Defendants' illegal discriminatory and retaliatory acts, nor did Defendants expec
Plaintiff to first; realize what his rights were and second; fully exercise his rights to remain in
possession of the premises; because Defendants expect him not to be able to know how to defend
nimself because of his mental disability and because the defendants consider him a second class
citizen that does not know any better, or one who can not afford to properly defend himself
Defendants expected plaintiff to vacate the premises without resisting, due to the reasons
mentioned above, and the harassment that the Defendants were subjecting plaintiff too. The
Defendants took advantage of the Plaintiff's mental disability and at the time the Plaintiff's
depressed mental state of mind", and homeless status. The Defendants profiled Plaintiff as ar
under-privileged and depressed victim that is unfocused, and Defendants were depending or
Plaintiff being without financial resources, down and in such a depressed state of mind that
Plaintiff will not be able to, or know how to pursue his legal rights.

43. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by defendants on the basis of his source of income, violating FEHA 12955 (l), 12955(d), Civil Codes 52(a), 51. Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination based on Plaintiff's personal characteristic; being a homeless veteran receiving VA rent sudzidized-rental assistance. Specifically; according to FEHA section 12955(p)(1), 12955(o), landlords supported by government subsidies are required to use a financial or income standard in assessing eligibility for the rental of housing that is not based on the portion of rent to be paid by the tenant. This same rule can be applied to a tenant already residing in a government subsidized housing situation. A landlord cannot discriminate in any way against a tenant because his rent is subsidized, and/or because the portion of the rent he pays to landlord is minimal. Defendants

receive over sixty-five (65%) of the Plaintiff's monthly rent from the VA. Defendants' actions dictate discrimination against Plaintiff due to his source of income.

- 44. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants are in breach of the covenants of good faith and fair dealing and quiet enjoyment. Defendants are guilty of waiver, estoppel and unclean hands, among other things. Specifically; (1) Defendants are guilty of serving Plaintiff an improper 30 day termination notice, as alleged in this complaint. The 30 day termination notice omitted the clause informing Plaintiff that he has a ten day opportunity to grieve and/or resolve the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFR CHVIII, 880.607©, FEHA Section 12955, 24CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(ii), Civil Codes 52(a), 52.1(a), 52.1(b), and (2)Defendants are guilty of denying Plaintiff his entitled grievance hearing to discuss the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(iv), FEHA 12955(f), Civil Code 52(a) and (3) Defendant's offering of the written contract, as alleged in this complaint, and retaliation against plaintiff upon Plaintiff not signing and agreeing to Defendant's written contract, this act was meant to intimidate and coerce plaintiff into waiving his constitutional rights, a violation of Civil Codes 52.1(a), 52.1(b).
- 45. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's interference with Plaintiff's right to a full and equal accommodation and service in Defendants' business establishment by Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered general damages in an amount to be determined at proof at trial.
- 46. As a further direct and proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, Plaintiff is in addition entitled to recover all statutory civil penalties.
- 47. The above related actions of the defendants were done with malice, fraud or oppression and in reckless disregard of the Plaintiff's rights. Specifically; (1) Defendants knew that their actions and conduct were despicable and was intended to cause injury to Plaintiff. Defendants were willful and conscious, knowing that Plaintiff had a right to remain in possession of the premises, and had a right not to participate in Defendant's case management services

program, therefore, Defendants knew that they had failed to state a cause of action to evict plaintiff, prior to defendants filing the Unlawful Detainer action against Plaintiff. Defendants knew that they were subjecting Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship, in conscious disregard of plaintiff's rights. Defendants also knew that they were especially subject to federal and state housing laws because they are a PHA program participating in a VA subsidized housing program; and (2) on July 12, 2006, during the Plaintiff's pre-conference settlement, regarding the unlawful detainer action filed against Plaintiff, as alleged in this complaint, Defendants' attorney presented to Plaintiff's attorney a fraudulent lease that Plaintiff did not sign or was bound to. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004 and contained provisions requiring Plaintiff to participate in Defendant's case management services program, and limiting plaintiff's tenancy to 18 months. Defendants were hoping that Plaintiff would not remember the lease he actually signed and was bound too. Defendants attempted to use fraudulent means to evict plaintiff from the premises. Defendants went as far as attaching the back page of the lease that Plaintiff actually did sign to the fraudulent lease that plaintiff did not sign. Defendants knew that they had issued Plaintiff a month-to-month lease that did not contain any provisions relative to requiring plaintiff to participate in Defendants' case management services program, nor did it limit Plaintiff's tenancy to any specified months or years. Defendant's attempt to use fraudulent means to evict plaintiff shows that defendants knew that the reason they were attempting to evict Plaintiff was an invalid reason, therefore Defendants knew that they had not stated a cause of action to evict Plaintiff, but still proceeded to do so.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

[Fraud and Intentional Deceit]

Against all Defendants

First Count

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Intentional Misrepresentation of Fact

- 48. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 47 as though fully set forth herein.
- 49. Plaintiff alleges that defendant's acts constitute fraud and intentional deceit because defendants not only attempted to evict plaintiff for retaliatory reasons, *defendants also utilized fraudulent and deceitful means in their attempt to evict plaintiff from his apartment* or from the premises located at 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Alameda, CA., violating California Civil Codes §1710, §1572, §1572[2], §1709 and §1710.
- 50. On or about June 28, 2004, plaintiff entered into a written rental agreement with defendants by the terms of which defendants rented the premises to plaintiff on a month-to-month tenancy at the rental rate of \$225.00 per month, payable monthly on the first day of every month, commencing on June 28, 2004.
- 51. On or about December 15, 2005, defendants made the following representation to the plaintiff; as plaintiff's landlord, defendants informed plaintiff that his tenancy will be terminated in March 2006, due to plaintiff not participating in defendants." Case Management Services Program" a service provided by defendants VA funded, transitional housing program. Defendants informed plaintiff that his non-participation in Case Management Services was a violation of his lease and he will therefore be evicted on those grounds. Defendants also informed plaintiff that his tenancy will also be terminated because his term was limited to eighteen months.
- 52. On or about February 16, 2006, for the reasons mentioned herein, defendants served plaintiff with a thirty day (30) termination notice to vacate the premises, by March 17, 2006. Plaintiff remained in possession of the premises.
- 53. On or about May 5, 2006, for the reasons mentioned herein, defendants served plaintiff with an unlawful detainer complaint to take possession of the premises. Plaintiff

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continued to remain in possession of the premises.

- 54. On or about July 5, 2006, during plaintiff's pre trial conference regarding the unlawful detainer action filed against plaintiff as alleged in this complaint, defendants presented a lease to plaintiff and plaintiff's attorney that plaintiff did not sign or was bound to. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004, and contained provisions requiring plaintiff to participate in defendants' case management services program, and limited his tenancy to eighteen months.
- 55. The representations made by the defendants were in fact, misrepresentations. The true facts being: on June 28, 2004, defendants did not issue plaintiff a lease with any provision requiring plaintiff to participate in defendant's Case Management Services Program, nor was there any provision limiting plaintiff's tenancy to any specified months or years. Defendants knew they issued said lease to plaintiff and chose to deny and not honor plaintiff's lease. Defendant's actions were in retaliation against plaintiff, because he stated that he would exercise his rights as a tenant, including his right to stay, among other things. Defendants then continued to retaliate against plaintiff when he exercised his right to stay.
- 56. Defendants also knew that even if plaintiff was bound by any provision in his lease to participate in defendant's Case Management Services Program, defendants could not evict plaintiff on those grounds because it would be deemed by HUD rules and regulations as a minor violation. According to HUD Occupancy Handbook 4350.3 REV-1, Chapter 8, Section 3: Termination of Tenancy by Owners, 8-13, (4.), in order for a tenant residing in a PHA to be evicted for a minor violation, the violation to warrant the eviction must be repeated numerous times, and documented as serious enough to warrant his eviction. Defendants failed to adhere to the rules and regulations of HUD, because they moved to evict plaintiff on these grounds. Defendants knew that if the plaintiff was bound by the provision, plaintiff did not commit the required acts to justify "non participation" or it did anything serious

enough to warrant his eviction. It is a misrepresentation of material fact, to lead plaintiff to believe he can be evicted because he failed to participate, when he in actuality did participate, and/or did not do anything considered to be "non participating".

- 57. Defendant's attempt to submit fraudulent lease as plaintiff's lease to the court was despicable conduct done with malice. Defendants attempted to defraud and deceive plaintiff, his attorney and the court, as this was an intentional misrepresentation of material fact. The lease presented was dated August 17, 2004, when in actuality there was never any lease executed between plaintiff and defendants on August 17, 2004, or any other time. The only lease ever executed between defendants and plaintiff was the lease agreement on June 28, 2004, and dated June 28, 2004. Plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, but executed the lease on June 28, 2004.
- 58. When the Defendants made the representations, they knew them to be false and/or misrepresentations, and made these representations with the intention to (deceive and defraud the plaintiff and to) induce the plaintiff to act in reliance on these representations in the manner hereafter alleged, or with the expectation that the plaintiff would so act. Defendants expected plaintiff to vacate the premises.
- 59. The Plaintiff, at the time these representations were made by defendants and at the time the plaintiff took the actions herein alleged believed that the defendant's representations were false. In reliance on these representations, the plaintiff induced to and exercised his rights to retain possession of the premises. The Plaintiff's reliance on the defendant's representations was justified because defendants were plaintiff's landlord attempting to fraudulently evict him.
- 60. Plaintiff alleges that defendants evicting him on the grounds they claimed were invalid, and defendants leading plaintiff to believe he could be evicted on those grounds, when he could not be, is a misrepresentation or representation, and of which is just one part of a series of representations or misrepresentations in this case.

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- 61. Defendants informing plaintiff that he was in violation of his lease for nonparticipation in case management services, and that he was to be evicted on those grounds, and on the grounds that his tenancy was limited to eighteen months, was a misrepresentation of material fact, made with the intent to deceive and defraud plaintiff into believing that he was wrong and defendants had a legal right to evict him.
- 62. Defendants insisted that plaintiff's lease did contain a contract or provision requiring him to participate in case management services, and did contain an eighteen month limitation on his tenancy, when in actuality they knew it did not.
- 63. Plaintiff entered into an agreement (a lease and contract) with defendants that did not include any provision requiring him to participate in case management services, (as that provision was included in some of the other tenants leases residing at Dignity Commons). Defendants can not include that provision in plaintiff's lease by writing it in or verbally implying that it is in his lease, nor evict plaintiff on those grounds, especially when both parties signed a contract that did not include that provision initially.
- 64. In addition, subsequent to filing the original complaint, plaintiff discovered defendants informed the court on July 5, 2006 that they were going to file a dismissal in plaintiff's behalf regarding the unlawful detainer complaint defendants filed against him. Defendants did not file the dismissal. This action is yet another intentional misrepresentation, in that, it was a promise made with no intention of keeping.
- 65. Plaintiff alleges that he has satisfied all the elements for intentional misrepresentation, which include: (1) misrepresentation, (2) material fact, (3) knowledge of falsity, (4) intent to induce reliance, (5) justifiable reliance and (6) causation and damage.
- 66. Defendant's attempt to mislead plaintiff into believing he could be evicted for the reasons mentioned herein, and initiating eviction actions against plaintiff based on those reasons,

and, including the other misrepresentations by defendants mentioned herein, violated

California Civil Codes §1710 and §1572.

about losing his place of residence.

67. As a proximate result of the fraudulent conduct of the defendants as herein alleged, the plaintiff incurred legal costs of \$200.00 necessary to defend himself in the Unlawful Detainer Action filed against him. Plaintiff was subject to retaliatory evictions that subject him to harassment and arbitrary discrimination, that disrupted his quiet enjoyment. Plaintiff was also subject to emotional distress caused by the Defendants actions. Plaintiff was worried and anxious

68. The aforementioned conduct of defendants was an intentional misrepresentation, deceit, or concealment of a material fact know to the defendants with the intention on the part of the defendants of thereby depriving the plaintiff of property or legal rights otherwise causing injury, and was despicable conduct that subjected plaintiff to a cruel and unjust hardship in conscious disregard of the plaintiff's rights, so as to justify an award of exemplary and punitive damages.

SECOND COUNT

[Negligent Misrepresentation]

- 69. When the defendants made these representations they had no reasonable grounds for believing them to be true. The defendants knew exactly what lease they issued plaintiff.

 Plaintiff also informed defendants, prior to defendants filing of the Unlawful Detainer Action against plaintiff, that his lease had no provision requiring him to participate in defendants Case Management Services Program, nor was his tenancy limited to eighteen months.
- 70. Defendants also knew the lease they submitted to plaintiff and his attorney on July 5, 2006 during plaintiff's pre-trial conference was a fraudulent lease.
 - 71. The Defendants made these representations with the intention of inducing the

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plaintiff to act in reliance on these representations in the manner hereafter alleged, or with the expectation that the Plaintiff would so act.

72. Defendants' initiating these actions in an attempt to recover possession from plaintiff, violated California Civil Codes §1572[2], §1709 and §1710, therefore plaintiff is entitled to statutory damages, costs, and an award of attorney fees.

THIRD COUNT

[Suppression of Fact]

- 73. Subsequent to the filing of the original complaint, plaintiff discovered the true name or title of what plaintiff believed was titled a "tenants right handbook" as "HUD-9887 Fact Sheet" and a "Resident Rights and Responsibilities Brochure".
- On or about August 17, 2004 to present, defendants violated section §1572 of the 74. California Civil Code. (1) The defendants failed to distribute to Plaintiff a "HUD -9887 Fact Sheet" and a copy of "Resident Rights and Responsibilities Brochure" as required by HUD Occupancy Handbook 4350.3 REV-1, Chapter 5, Determining Income & Calculating Rent. Defendants did not adhere to the rules and regulations of HUD because they failed to distribute documents and information that would have informed plaintiff of his rights, privileges and entitlements as a tenant in a Public Housing Assistance program or his rights, privileges and entitlements as a veteran in a VA rent subsidized program. The information would have informed plaintiff of issues regarding his tenancy, such as; eviction procedures, landlord following due process to evict, remedies, (e g. hardship exemption). (2) The defendants omitted the ten day clause in the thirty day termination notice to deprive plaintiff of his entitled ten day opportunity to grieve or discuss the termination of his tenancy with the landlord, another requirement of a HUD, violating 24 CFR CH VIII, §880.6079 (c), and 24 CFR CH IIX §966.4(3)(8)(ii). (3) Defendants denied or omitted plaintiff his entitled grievance hearing to discuss the termination of his tenancy, violating section 24 CFR CH IX §966.4(3) (iv). (4)

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Defendants suppressed or concealed the fact that the lease they presented at plaintiff's preconference settlement was not plaintiff's lease.

- The Defendants, and each of them, made the failures to disclose and the 75. suppressions and/or concealments of information herein alleged, with the intent to induce the plaintiff to act in the manner herein alleged in reliance thereon, and with the intent to prevent the plaintiff from further inquiring into or discovering and utilizing any tenant rights, entitlements and privileges and information that would be available to plaintiff; that would help keep him from being evicted from the premises and the defendants program.
- Defendants' attempt to recover possession violated section §1572 of the 76. California Civil Code, as defendants terminated plaintiff's tenancy using fraudulent and deceitful means by; suppressing or concealing pertinent information from Plaintiff that he is entitled to, regarding his tenancy. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to statutory damages, costs and an award of attorney fees.

Wherefore, Plaintiff Foster prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

[Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing]

Against all Defendants

- Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in 77. paragraphs 1 through 76 as though full set forth herein.
- In assuming the landlord-tenant contracted relationship with Plaintiff, Defendants 78. covenanted to deal with Plaintiff in good faith.
- By reason of the Defendants actions as alleged herein, including but not limited to 79. Defendants unlawful efforts to evict Plaintiff, all in a concerted effort to recover possession of Plaintiff's home, in violation of 1942.5 (c), Defendants has committed a breach of the

Wherefore plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as more fully set

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forth below.

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SIX CAUSE OF ACTION

[Unlawful Business Practices in Violation of B&P 17200]

Against all Defendants

- 85. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 84 as though full set forth herein.
- 86. The Plaintiff brings this action on his own behalf and on all persons similarly situated. The class the Plaintiff represents is composed of all persons who, at any time since the date four years before the filing of this complaint were U.S. Veterans and tenants in Defendants VA supported transitional housing program. Defendants represent United States Veterans as their landlord. Plaintiff represents U.S. Veterans as tenants being unlawfully evicted from their apartments by Defendants, and from Defendants VA supported, transitional housing program.
- 87. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law for the injuries currently being suffered or which result in the future from Defendants' continued wrongful conduct in that unless this court restrains defendants, Plaintiff and other members of the public will be forced to institute a multiplicity of suits to obtain compensation and the individual injuries suffered may be too small to warrant the expenditures necessary in litigation.
- 88. The Defendants, Operation Dignity, is a business incorporated in the State of California, and at all times mentioned acted as Plaintiff's landlord.
- 89. Beginning approximately eight years ago or before, and continuing to the present time, the Defendants, Operation Dignity has been funded by the government, public and private sources to assist homeless U.S. Veterans by providing transitional housing programs to them.
- 90. The Defendants on or about February 16, 2006, began utilizing fraudulent methods to attempt to evict Plaintiff from the premises. The Defendants did not have sufficient cause to evict Plaintiff but proceeded to do so using fraudulent means. On information and belief, The Defendants, Operation Dignity has used fraudulent means to evict other members

of the Plaintiff's class from their apartments. Defendants want to be perceived as "good corporate citizens' who help homeless veterans when in actuality Defendants are deceiving and defrauding the veterans that participate in their programs, and Defendants are also deceiving and defrauding the VA and the public. Defendants are using homeless U.S. Veterans to obtain funding from the government, public and private sources, but the veterans are being deprived and denied the full benefits and reasonable accommodations they are entitled to from the Defendants program.

- 91. As an direct, proximate result, and foreseeable result of the Defendants wrongful conduct, as alleged in this complaint, the plaintiff, Foster and other members of the Plaintiff's class, who are unknown to the plaintiff but can be identified through inspection of the Defendant's Grant and Per Diem Program records, and by other means, were subject to illegal evictions, and harassment and discrimination of their class. The Plaintiff is entitled to relief, and any and all monetary damages available, as a result of such unfair business acts or practices.
- 92. The Defendants acts hereinabove alleged are acts of unfair competition within the meaning of Business and Professions Code 17203. The Plaintiff is informed and believes that the Defendants will continue to do those acts unless the court orders the Defendants to cease and desist.
- 93. The Plaintiff has incurred and, during the pendancy of this action, will incur expenses for attorney fees and costs that are necessary for the prosecution of this action and will result in a benefit to each member of the class. Plaintiff is entitled to recover prevailing party attorney's fees in the any amount the court determines, and by other statutory entitlements.
- 94. The conduct of Defendants, as alleged herein was malicious and oppressive and done in conscious disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and done in knowing or willful violation of the Business and Professions Code, or in reckless disregard of the Business and

- 4. Not following due process to evict the veteran from the premises offered by Defendant's programs.
- Discriminating against the veteran in any way.
- 6. For an order requiring the Defendants to compile a list identifying, as far as possible, all other persons who have had been subject to unlawful detainer actions and/or other forms of termination notices; including thirty day and all three day and thirty day notices, (regardless if notices are considered by Defendants not a termination notice).
- 7. For the payment of Plaintiff's attorney fees pursuant to Civil Code 1942.4.
- 8. For costs of suit incurred; and
- 9. For such and other further relief as the court may deem proper.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

[Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress] Against all Defendants

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95. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 94 as though fully set forth herein.

- 96. Defendant's continued retaliatory actions to attempt to evict Plaintiff as alleged in this complaint were knowing, intentional and willful and done with reckless disregard of the probability of causing plaintiff emotional distress.
- 97. As a proximate result of defendant's conduct, as alleged in this complaint, Plaintiff suffered extreme mental anguish and emotional distress in the form of humiliation, mental anguish, anxiety, worry, disappointment and alienation that interfered with Plaintiff's quiet enjoyment. Plaintiff was worried and anxious about whether he was going to lose his home. The acts of defendants injured plaintiff in mind and body.
- 98. The retaliatory actions of the Defendants, as alleged in this complaint were oppressive, malicious and outrageous, and the defendants that were standing in a position of authority over Plaintiff, acted with the intent to damage plaintiff and to cause Plaintiff severe emotional and physical distress. Defendants abused the Landlord/Tenant relationship with plaintiff. Defendant's conduct was done knowingly and willfully in violation of 1942.5 (c), Civil Codes 51, 51(f), 52, 52(a), 52.1(a), 52.1(b), FEHA 12955(f), FEHA 12955(l), FEHA 12955(d), FEHA 12955(o), B&P 17200, 24 CFR CHVIII, 880.607(c), 24CFRCHIX 966.4(3)(ii),and Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be determined by proof at trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below:

- 1. For general damages, including emotional distress, according to proof;
- 2. For statutory penalties and all relief allowed by statute according to proof;

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1	3. For punitive damages;						
2	4. For an award of attorney's fees;						
3	5. For pre-judgment interest at the legal rate according to proof;						
4	6.	6. For costs of suit incurred;					
5	7. For such other and further relief as the court may deem proper.						
6	Dated: The	ruan :	26,2007		_		
7		J.		Mach Ant	toine forter		
8				Mark Antoine Foster,	In pro per		
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25	COMPLAINT				· .		

by First-Class Mail-Civil (Persons Served) (POS-030(P)).

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)

PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL---CIVIL

(SIGNATURE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)

Code of Civil Procedure, §§ 1013, 1013a

American LegalNet, Inc. www.USCourtForms.com

Case 3:07-cv-05030-MMC Docum	nent 14 File	ed 12/03/2007	Page 61 of 86	POS-030	
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):			FOR COURT USE ONLY		
Mark Antoine Foster					
725 Ellis Street #408					
San Francisco, California, 94109				, a	
TELEPHONE NO.: 415-756-1611 FAX NO). (Optional):	- e			
E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional):					
ATFORNEY FOR (Name):					
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street					
MAILING ADDRESS:		*	•		
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Oakland, California 94612					
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: Mark Antoine Foster					
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: Wark Afficilité Foster					
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT:Operation Dignity, Inc., A	lev McElree an				
individual	.cx wicinico, an				
individual		CASE NUI	ADED.		
PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLAS	S MAIL—CIVIL	CASE NO	RG06302322		
			1000302322		
(Do not use this Proof of Service to s	how service of a S	Summons and Com	plaint.)		
1. I am over 18 years of age and not a party to this action.	I am a resident of	or employed in the c	ounty where the mailing		
took place.					
2. My residence or business address is:					
1621 HARRISON St. APT. 1205					
cold and CA 9462					
On (date): February 26, 2007 1 mailed from (city and sta	te): Alameda, Ca	ılifornia			
the following documents (specify):					
Amended Complaint				•	
The documents are listed in the Attachment to Proc	of of Service by Firs	t-Class Mail—Civil (I	Documents Served)		
(form POS-030(D)).	·	. Older Man Olvin (2			
4. I served the documents by enclosing them in an envelope	and (check one):		6.II		
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b. placing the envelope for collection and mailing f business's practice for collecting and processing	_		•		
placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited i	•	-			
a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid.					
5. The envelope was addressed and mailed as follows: <i>C</i>	14pp, dioron	ey, Bellagin	ba , And Vuci	nich	
a. Name of person served: Alex McElree, an indivi	dual	• -	aprop	Cresional	
b. Address of person served:					
6130 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 275, Pleas	anton, CA 9458	38			
			•		
The name and address of each person to whom I m by First-Class Mail—Civil (Persons Served) (POS-0		ts is listed in the Atta	echment to Proof of Servi	ice	
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State		e foregoing is true ar	nd correct.		
Date: 2 36 07					
201 001					
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON GOMPLETING THIS FORM)	_	(SIGNATURE OF PER	SON COMPLETING THIS FORM)		

Form Approved for Optional Use Judicial Council of California POS-030 [New January 1, 2005]

PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL—CIVIL (Proof of Service)

Code of Civil Procedure, §§ 1013, 1013a www.courtinfo.ca.gov

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Form Approved for Optional Use Judicial Council of California POS-030 [New January 1, 2005]

PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL—CIVIL
(Proof of Service)

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ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
Mark Antoine Foster	
725 Ellis Street #408	
San Francisco, California, 94109	
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TELEPHONE NO.: 415-756-1611 FAX NO. (Options	<i>iii</i>
E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional):	
ATTORNEY FOR (Name):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: 1225 Fallon Street	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
crry and zip code: Oakland, California 94612	
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: Mark Antoine Foster	
PETHONER/PLAINTIFF: Water Automic Poster	
Dionity Inc. Linds (Inffin on
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT: Operation Dignity, Inc., Linda	Jillini, an
individual	
PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MA	CASE NUMBER:
PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS WIN	RG06302322
(Do not use this Proof of Service to show s	
2. My residence or business address is: 1621 Howell some April 1005 3. On (date): February 26, 2007 I mailed from (city and state): A the following documents (specify): Amended Complaint The documents are listed in the Attachment to Proof of State (form POS-030(D)).	lameda, California
4. I served the documents by enclosing them in an envelope and (a. depositing the sealed envelope with the United States b. placing the envelope for collection and mailing following business's practice for collecting and processing correspond for collecting coll	s Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid. In our ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this spondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is preciously course of business with the United States Postal Service in
5. The envelope was addressed and mailed as follows: Linea. Name of person served: Linea Griffin, an individual	o, Morvney, Bellagumba, And Vucinula a proffesion
6130 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 275, Pleasanto	n, CA 94588
The control of the control of whom I moiled	the decuments is listed in the Attachment to Proof of Service
by First-Class Mail—Civil (Persons Served) (POS-030(P)	and the contract of the contra
i declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Cal	itornia that the foregoing is true and correct.
Date: 2/26/07	
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(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)	(SIGNATURE OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM)

Form Approved for Optional Use Judicial Council of California POS-030 [New January 1, 2005] PROOF OF SERVICE BY FIRST-CLASS MANL—CIVIL (Proof of Service)

Code of Civil Procedure, §§ 1013, 1013a www.courtinfo.ca.gov

> American LegalNet, Inc. www.USCourtForms.com

EXHIBIT "C"

<u>ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION</u>

 At all times herein mentioned, Plaintiff FOSTER is a resident of the City of Alameda, County of Alameda, with his residence address being 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Apt. A, Alameda, California. Plaintiff took possession of his apartment on or

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- 2. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY, INC. (hereafter "OPERATION DIGNITY") is a California non-profit corporation with its principal office located at 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California. Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY owns, operates, leases, or manages that certain apartment building located at 2300 Moonlight Terrace, Alameda, California, which is commonly known as "Dignity Commons." Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY is Plaintiff's landlord.
- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, at all times herein mentioned, Defendant ALEX McELREE, an individual, is the owner, officer, director, employee, and/or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.
- 4. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, a unity of interest and ownership between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE such that any individuality and separateness between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE, as owner, officer, director, or agent of Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY, has ceased. Defendants are the alter egos of one another.
- 5. Adherence to the fiction of separate existence between Defendants OPERATION DIGNITY and McELREE as entities distinct from one another would permit an abuse of the corporate privilege and would sanction fraud or promote injustice in that it would prevent Plaintiff from pursuing claims for damages from all parties responsible for his injuries.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant WILLIAM KENNEDY, an individual, was the employee, partner, and/or agent of

COMPLAINT

Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY. His principal place of business is 1504 Franklin Street, Oakland, California.

- 7. Plaintiff does not know the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 63 and therefore sues them by their fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint when their true names and capacities are ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged and that Plaintiff's damages as herein alleged were proximally caused by these defendants. Each reference in this complaint to "Defendant OPERATION DIGNITY," "Defendant McELREE," "Defendant KENNEDY," 'Defendant GRIFFIN", "Defendant", "Defendants," or a specifically named defendant refers also to all defendants sued under fictitious names.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant was the agent, employee, partner, independent contractor, or joint venturer of each other defendant and was acting within the scope and authority of such relationship. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the defendants herein consented to, ratified, and authorized the acts herein alleged of each of the remaining defendants.
- 9. At all times herein mentioned, each defendant operated and managed Dignity Commons and maintained control of Dignity Commons.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION [Retaliatory Eviction pursuant to §1942.5 (c)] Against all Defendants

- 10. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 9 of this complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 11. This is an unlawful eviction matter stemming from defendants filing an unlawful detainer action against plaintiff on July 14, 2006.

COMPLAINT

- 12. Plaintiff brings this action for retaliatory eviction pursuant to section §1942.5(c) of the California Civil Code), for being retaliated against by defendants for organizing and advocating lessee's rights and informing other tenants of those rights and for peaceably exercising his own rights to retain possession of his apartment, among other things.
- 13. California Civil Code section §1942.5 and common law, allows a tenant to bring forth two separate causes of action in an unlawful detainer action, in that, §1942.5(a) allows a tenant to, (1) bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense in a unlawful detainer action, and § 1942.5(c) allows a tenant to (2) bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action, in that they are two separate causes of action, entitling a tenant to remedies and damages that are distinct and individual from each other, and for each cause of action.
- 14. California Civil Code §1942.5 (h) states "The remedies provided by this section shall be in addition to any other remedies provided by statutory or decisional law".
- 15. California Civil Code §1942.5(f)(1)(2) states "Any lessor or agent of a lessor who violates this section shall be liable to the lessee in a civil action for all of the following: (1) The actual damages sustained by lessee, and (2) Punitive damages in amount of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each retaliatory act where the lessor or agent has been guilty of fraud, oppression, or malice with respect to that act", this being a remedy for plaintiff, for defendants violating §1942.5(a).
- 16. Plaintiff alleges that, during the time of his tenancy, and at the commencement of plaintiff's pre-conference settlement, relative to the unlawful detainer action mentioned herein, and it's court proceedings, plaintiff did not enter

into any agreements to waive his rights; to bring forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action, pursuant to section §1942.5(c), as he brought forth retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense, pursuant to section §1942.5(a), to retain possession of his apartment.

- 17. California Civil Code §1942.5(d) states "Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting in any way the exercise by the lessor of his or her rights under any lease or agreement or any law pertaining to the hiring of property or his or her right to do any of the acts described in subdivision (a) or (c) for any lawful cause. Any waiver by a lessee of his or her rights under this section is void as contrary to public policy".
- 18. Furthermore, plaintiff alleges that res judicata would not apply to this case, and this cause of action would not be barred by res judicata, because plaintiff is not "splitting" a cause of action; due to plaintiff having two causes of action to claim, (1) retaliatory eviction as an affirmative defense, and (2) retaliatory eviction as an affirmative cause of action, and the law does not require plaintiff to settle both causes of action at the same time, and/or during any unlawful detainer proceedings
- 19. On or about June 28, 2004, plaintiff entered into a written rental agreement with Defendants by the terms of which Defendants rented the premises to Plaintiff on a month-to-month tenancy at the rental rate of \$225.00 per month, payable monthly on the first day of each and every month, commencing on June 28, 2004.
- 20. Under the terms of the rental agreement, plaintiff entered into possession of the premises on or about August 17, 2004, and had continued in possession of his apartment until he agreed to vacate on January 31, 2007.
 - 21. Plaintiff was not during the period of his tenancy in default as to the

payment of rent.

22... On or about July 7, 2006, defendants, and each of them, served plaintiff with a three (3) day notice to pay or quit for alleged non payment of rent. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the subject three-day notice to pay rent or quit was in retaliation against plaintiff, among other things, for plaintiff; (1) successfully defending himself in a prior unlawful detainer action, (2) writing letters to the Veteran's Administration's Inspector General, the regional Director of HUD, and Congressman Pete Stark, exposing plaintiff's fraud and violation of federal law, (3) organizing tenants and informing them of their rights and about the unlawful detainer actions of plaintiff, (4) exercising his rights to a reasonable accommodation, (5) refusing to sign an agreement that violates HUD rules and regulations, (6) complaining about harassment from the property manager, and(7) for insisting on not moving in a building that was suitable for his needs.

- 23. On or about July 14, 2006, for the reasons mentioned herein, defendants, and each of them filed and formally served plaintiff with an unlawful detainer complaint and summons for the alleged non payment of rent, and defendants entered an incorrect date of plaintiff's lease as 8/17/04 on the face of the unlawful detainer complaint, that defendants filed against plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendants did this in an attempt to deceive plaintiff, his attorney and the court that he was bound by a lease that was dated 8/17/04, when there never was any lease executed by defendants and plaintiff on 8/17/04.
- 24. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendant's reason to evict, which was for plaintiff's alleged non payment of rent was not the reason or primary motive for evicting plaintiff. Plaintiff believes and therefore alleges that defendant's primary motive for evicting plaintiff was for the retaliatory reasons

COMPLAINT

mentioned herein, and because plaintiff exercised his right not to pay his rent, due to the three- day notice defendants served on him was defective (for several reasons), and because defendants were angry at plaintiff, and insecure about plaintiff exposing their illegal activities to the other tenants and governmental agencies. Defendants also knew that plaintiff possessed a month to month lease without stipulations on the term of his tenancy, and for the reasons herein, among other things, were desperate to recover possession of the premises.

- 25. Plaintiff also alleges and therefore believes that; because defendants receive over sixty-five percent of plaintiff's rent in subsidies from the VA, plaintiff can easily claim that the portion of the rent he pays is to small to justify eviction, especially in the event, plaintiff would request a hardship exemption, as he is entitled to if he was having financial difficulty. If plaintiff requests and is entitled to a hardship exemption, defendants can request zero rent for plaintiff, and the VA will pay substantially more of plaintiff's rent, or the entire rent amount, until plaintiff recovers from the hardship. This gives defendants no reason to evict plaintiff from his home for nonpayment of rent if he claims a hardship exemption, as plaintiff did in this case. Defendants rejected and refused to give plaintiff his hardship exemption.
- 26. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendants, and each of them, failed to terminate his tenancy prior to defendants filing the unlawful detainer action against him. Defendants proceeded to unlawfully evict plaintiff, knowing that such action was unlawful and without legal merit, because defendants knew; (1) the notice was defective, and they knew that plaintiff had a right not to pay his rent until the notice was served on him properly, and (2) until he was reasonably accommodated by defendants.

- 27. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and therefore alleges that defendants did not follow due process to evict him, because, 1) defendants served him an improper termination notice, it being improper because it omitted a ten (10) day clause that is required on the face of the notice informing the plaintiff that he has a ten day opportunity to grieve the termination of his tenancy with the landlord, violating 24 CFR CHVIII, §880.607(c), 24CFRCHIX §966.4(3)(ii), and also because the rent amount stated on the notice was overstated, and 2) defendants denied plaintiff his entitled grievance hearing, violating 24 CFRCHIX §966.4(3).
- 28. Defendants also knew that they could move to recover possession of the premises, by simply waiting until after plaintiff's twenty-four subsidy from the VA expired, plaintiff being a U.S. Veteran residing in housing and participating in defendant' transitional program. Instead of trying to reasonably accommodate plaintiff, defendants instead chose to ignore following due process to evict plaintiff, and chose to not reasonably accommodate plaintiff, and moved to unlawfully evict him before his twenty-four month rent subsidy expired.
- 29. Thereafter, on or about August 14, 2006, plaintiff filed a demurrer to defendant's unlawful detainer for the serving of the improper notice.
- 30. Thereafter, on or about August 28, 2006, defendants filed an opposition to plaintiff's demurrer.
- 31. Thereafter, on or about September 7, 2006, plaintiff filed a reply to defendant's opposition to plaintiff's demurrer.
- 32. Thereafter, on or about September 12, 2006, this superior court overruled on plaintiff's demurrer.
- 33. Thereafter, on or about September 18, 2006, plaintiff filed his answer to defendant's unlawful detainer.

1 34. Thereafter, on or about November 1, 2006, plaintiff's pre conference 2 settlement was held, and plaintiff and defendants discussed a tentative agreement to 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 35. 16 17 18

settle the unlawful detainer action defendants filed against plaintiff. Plaintiff explained his reasons for not paying rent, due to the three-day notice served to him was improper, the fact that he was denied his grievance hearing, and the fact that the defendants were failing to reasonably accommodate him, due to his hardship, disability and source of income. Plaintiff offered and was willing to pay all back rent up to the current date to defendants, but defendants refused. Defendants stated that the reason plaintiff was being evicted was because his rent subsidies from the VA had expired and he had to vacate the premises. Plaintiff agreed to leave for this reason. Plaintiff insisted that he was not in violation of not paying his rent and will not allow defendants to evict him on those grounds. Plaintiff informed defendants that he was willing to go to jury trial in the event defendants proceeded to evict him for alleged nonpayment of rent. Defendants and plaintiff agreed to reschedule to another pre conference settlement on November 14, 2006 in a continuance to settle the matter. Thereafter, on or about November 14, 2006, defendants and plaintiff

reached the agreement that if plaintiff would agree to leave on January 31, 2007, defendants will waive plaintiff's back rent and current rent. Plaintiff agreed to leave. Defendants asked plaintiff to waive his rights to sue and any motions to stay; plaintiff declined, and also stated that he also expects his security deposit back. Defendants agreed to the return the deposit as long as there was no damage to the premises. A stipulation Dismissal/Judgment was written and agreed upon by both parties.

Defendants' attempt to recover possession from plaintiff violated Civil 36. Code §1942.5 as defendants terminated plaintiff's tenancy in retaliation for his

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exercising his legal rights regarding tenancy. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to statutory damages, costs and an award of attorney fees.

- 37. As a direct and proximate result of the retaliatory actions of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff was required to retain an attorney to represent him in the unlawful detainer action at a cost of \$200.00.
- 38. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants' outrageous conduct, plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great anxiety, embarrassment, anger, loss of enjoyment of life, injury to reputation, and severe emotional distress in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 39. The retaliatory actions of defendants, as alleged in this complaint were oppressive and malicious within the meaning of Civil Code section §3294 in that such actions constituted despicable conduct which subjected plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship and a willful and conscious disregard for plaintiff's rights and safety hereby entitling plaintiff to an award of punitive damages.
- 40. Plaintiff is entitled to recover prevailing party attorney's fees pursuant to California Civil Code section §1942.5(g), and by other statutory entitlements.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION [Interference with Exercise of Unruh Civil Rights] Against all Defendants

- 41. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 40 as though fully set forth herein.
- 42. Defendants retaliatory and other illegal actions to attempt to evict plaintiff from the premises, upon plaintiff exercising his constitutional right to remain in

possession of the premises, interfered with the exercise of plaintiff's civil rights.

43. The Unruh Civil Rights Act provides that all persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever.

44. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was subject to arbitrary discrimination by defendants violating sections Civil Codes §52.1(a), §52.1(b), FEHA 12955(f). Specifically, Operation Dignity is a transitional housing program servicing U.S. Veterans. Operation Dignity is also a Public Housing Assistance program (PHA) governed by federal and state law. The veterans enrolled in the program receive funding from the VA to help subsidize their rents. The program issues most of the veterans enrolled in the program an 18-24 month lease with a provision requiring the veteran to participate in the program's "case management services program." Defendants issued Plaintiff a month-to-month lease without requiring him to participate in Defendants' case management services program", and without a limitation on the term of his tenancy. Defendants have previously and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff because he possesses said lease, and because he exercised his rights as a tenant under his lease, as well as his personal rights, among other things, in a previous unlawful detainer action, as well as exercising his rights relative to the unlawful detainer action mentioned herein. Defendants also discriminating against plaintiff because he refused to pay rent until he was served with a proper notice, and until defendants reasonably accommodated him.

45. Defendants knew they had failed to state a case of action to properly evict plaintiff, but still proceeded to do so. Plaintiff exercised his legal rights as a tenant under state and federal law to remain in possession of the premises, and not pay his rent

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until he was served a proper notice, and given a reasonable accommodation from defendants.

46. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by Defendants on the basis of his disability, violating FEHA section 12955, Civil Codes §51(f), §52(a), and the Federal Housing Act as amended, (Title 8) (3) (B); for a refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford such a person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling. Specifically, Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination because of Plaintiff's personal characteristic: being a mentally disabled, homeless veteran. Defendants' actions attempting to unlawfully evict Plaintiff dictate; Defendants failing to reasonably accommodate plaintiff due to his disability or taking advantage of, or abusing plaintiff because he is mentally disabled and a homeless veteran. The Defendants did not anticipate that Plaintiff would discover and uncover Defendants' illegal discriminatory and retaliatory acts, nor did Defendants expect Plaintiff to first; realize what his rights were and second; fully exercise his rights to remain in possession of the premises; because Defendants expect him not to be able to know how to defend himself because of his mental disability and because the defendants consider him a second class citizen that does not know any better, or one who can not afford to properly defend himself. Defendants expected plaintiff to vacate the premises without resisting, due to the reasons mentioned above, and the harassment that the Defendants were subjecting plaintiff to. The Defendants took advantage of the Plaintiff's mental disability and at the time the Plaintiff's "depressed mental state of mind", and homeless status. The Defendants profiled Plaintiff as an under-privileged and depressed victim that is unfocused, and Defendants were depending on Plaintiff being without financial resources, down and in such a

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depressed state of mind that Plaintiff will not be able to, or know how to pursue his legal rights.

47. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that he was discriminated against by defendants on the basis of his source of income, violating FEHA 12955 (I), 12955(d), Civil Codes §52(a), §51. Plaintiff is subject to arbitrary discrimination based on Plaintiff's personal characteristic; being a homeless veteran receiving VA rent sudzidized-rental assistance. Specifically, according to FEHA section 12955(p)(1), 12955(o), landlords supported by government subsidies are required to use a financial or income standard in assessing eligibility for the rental of housing that is not based on the portion of rent to be paid by the tenant. This same rule can be applied to a tenant already residing in a government subsidized housing situation. A landlord cannot discriminate in any way against a tenant because his rent is subsidized, and/or because the portion of the rent he pays to landlord is minimal. Defendants receive over sixty-five (65%) of the plaintiff's monthly rent from the VA. Defendants' actions dictate discrimination against plaintiff due to his source of income.

48. Plaintiff is also informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants are in breach of the covenants of good faith and fair dealing and quiet enjoyment. Defendants are guilty of waiver, estoppel and unclean hands, among other things. Specifically; because defendants are a PHA, they are required to adhere to HUD rules and regulations, and because of HUD rules and other statutory and common law; defendants are guilty of (1) serving plaintiff an improper 30 day termination notice, as alleged in this complaint. The 30 day termination notice omitted the clause informing plaintiff that he has a ten day opportunity to grieve and/or resolve the termination matter with the landlord, this act violates section 24 CFR CHVIII, §880.607©, 24CFRCHIX §966.4(3)(ii), Civil Codes §52(a), §52.1(a), §52.1(b), and FEHA §12955 and

 COMPLAINT

(2)defendants are guilty of denying plaintiff his entitled grievance hearing to discuss the termination matter with the landlord, defendants are not allowed to move to filing a unlawful detainer action until the meeting has been commenced, this act violates section 24CFRCHIX §966.4(3)(iv), §966.51(a)(1), violating FEHA section §12955(f), and Civil Code §52(a), and 3) defendants also denied plaintiff his entitled hardship exemption, after plaintiff presented evidence he was entitled and eligible for a hardship exemption, violating 2CFR§5.630(2)(A)(B)(C)(D), Civil Code §52.1(a), and (4) because plaintiff was entitled to a hardship exemption, his rent amount was overstated on the three day pay or quit termination notice, because the month and the date plaintiff received the three day notice, which was July 7, 2006, plaintiff had no income. Plaintiff's hardship began in the beginning of June 2006, and plaintiff had no income for the entire month of June and up until on or about July 20, 2006, due to plaintiff's state disability payments being stopped because he missed an appointment with his doctor, who soon after went on vacation, and plaintiff missed being recertified for his disability payments. Plaintiff eventually got recertified, but his payments did not start-up again until around or about July 18, 2006, approximately eleven days after defendants served plaintiff the three day notice to pay or quit, this being the other reason why the notice was improper, being that the amount of rent stated on it was overstated, due to when he was served with the notice, he did not have a income, and defendants could have easily claim zero rent for plaintiff, and request the VA pay the difference. According to section §880.63, in the event a tenant in a (PHA) claims a hardship exemption, the landlord is required by HUD to suspend the plaintiff's rent for ninety days, and then reinstate the tenant's rent after the ninety days, giving the tenant the opportunity to recover from his hardship, defendants denied plaintiff his hardship exemption and ignored the fact that the rent amount on the three-day notice was overstated, and 5) defendants also entered an

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incorrect date of plaintiff's lease as 8/17/04 on the face of the unlawful detainer complaint defendants filed against plaintiff, which plaintiff believes was done in an attempt to deceive plaintiff, his attorney and the court into thinking that he was bound by a lease that was dated 8/17/04, when there never was any lease executed by defendants and plaintiff on 8/17/04. This act also violates section §52(a), §52.1(a), due to; the purpose of committing the act was to deny plaintiff his right to exercise the rights he was entitled to on the lease he actually signed, and was an attempt to interfere with plaintiff's rights, and coerce plaintiff from his apartment, and also deceive the court.

- 49. As a direct and proximate result of defendant's interference with plaintiff's right to a full and equal accommodation and service in defendants' business establishment by defendant, plaintiff has suffered general damages in an amount to be determined at proof at trial.
- 50. As a further direct and proximate result of the wrongful acts of defendants, plaintiff is in addition entitled to recover all statutory civil penalties.
- 51. The above related actions of the defendants were done with malice, fraud or oppression and in reckless disregard of the plaintiff's rights. Specifically; (1) defendants knew that their actions and conduct were despicable and was intended to cause injury to plaintiff, defendants were willful and conscious, knowing that plaintiff had a right to remain in possession of the premises, and had a right not to pay his rent until he was served properly, and (2) defendants also knew that they were required by law to reasonably accommodate plaintiff, therefore, defendants knew that they had failed to state a cause of action to evict plaintiff, and/or knew they could not legally proceed to evict plaintiff, prior to proceeding with the Unlawful Detainer action against Defendants knew that they were subjecting plaintiff to cruel and unjust plaintiff. hardship, in conscious disregard of plaintiff's rights. Defendants also knew that they

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were especially subject to federal and state housing laws because they are a PHA program participating in a VA subsidized housing program; and knew that the reason, and the way they were attempting to evict Plaintiff was being done with unclean hands, because the three-day notice served on plaintiff was improper, and also because defendants knew they were not reasonably accommodating plaintiff, among other things, therefore defendants knew that they had not stated a cause of action to evict plaintiff, but still proceeded to do so.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

[Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing]

Against all Defendants

- 52. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 51 as though full set forth herein.
- 53. In assuming the landlord-tenant contracted relationship with Plaintiff,

 Defendants covenanted to deal with Plaintiff in good faith.
- 54. By reason of the Defendants actions as alleged herein, including but not limited to Defendants unlawful efforts to evict Plaintiff, all in a concerted effort to recover possession of Plaintiff's home, in violation of California Civil Code §3300. Defendants committed a breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing with Plaintiff, which covenant is implied into every residential rental contract in California.
- 55. As a direct and proximate result of said breach, Plaintiff has suffered the actual, special and general damages as alleged, and which are incorporated herein by this reference, and seek recovery of the same, and for an award of costs and reasonable attorney fees.

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56. Plaintiff is informed and believes and therefore alleges that the endeavor to recover possession of the premises by Defendants was in conscious disregard of the Plaintiff's legal rights, and was willful, oppressive, and malicious; and designed to cause Plaintiff to suffer economic and emotional injury. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages against Defendants, in an amount to be determined at trial.

Wherefore Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

[Breach of Contract]

Against all Defendants

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 56 as fully set forth herein.
- 58. By illegally attempting to evict Plaintiff; for retaliatory reasons, as well as using fraudulent and deceitful means, and by discriminating against Plaintiff,

 Defendants, and each of them, have breached their contract with Plaintiff, violating

 California Civil Code §3300.
- 59. As the result of defendants' breach of contract, Plaintiff has suffered damages as alleged herein. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages against Defendants, in an amount to be determined at trial.

 Wherefore Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

[Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress] Against all Defendants

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- 60. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 59 as though fully set forth herein.
- 61. Defendant's continued retaliatory actions to attempt to evict plaintiff as alleged in this complaint were knowing, intentional and willful and done with reckless disregard of the probability of causing plaintiff emotional distress.
- As a proximate result of defendant's conduct, as alleged in this complaint, 62. plaintiff suffered extreme mental anguish and emotional distress in the form of humiliation, mental anguish, anxiety, worry, disappointment and alienation that interfered with plaintiff's quiet enjoyment. Plaintiff was worried and anxious about whether he was going to lose his home. The acts of defendants injured plaintiff in mind and body.
- ੇ3. The retaliatory actions of the defendants, as alleged in this complaint were oppressive, malicious and outrageous, and the defendants that were standing in a position of authority over plaintiff, acted with the intent to damage plaintiff and to cause **plai**nti::: **se**vere emotional and physical distress. Defendants abused Landlord/Tenant relationship with plaintiff. Defendant's conduct was done knowingly and willfully in violation of §1942.5 (c), Civil Codes §51, §51(f), §52, §52(a), §52.1(a), §52.1(b), FEHA §12955(f), FEHA §12955(I), FEHA §12955(d), FEHA §12955(o), 24 CFR CHVIII, §880.607(c), 24CFRCHIX §966.4(3)(ii), and Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be determined by proof at trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FOSTER prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as more fully set forth below:

Ca	ase 3:07-cv-05030-MMC	Document 14	Filed 12/03/2007	Page 83 of 86		
1	1. For gene	eral damage s, incl u	iding emotional distr	ess, according to p	roof;	
2	2. For statu	uto ry penalties and	all relief allowed by	statute according to	o proof,	
3	3. For puni	itive damages;				
4	4. For an a	ward of attorney's	fees;			
5	5. For pre-j	For pre-judgment interest at the legal rate according to proof;				
6	6. For costs	s of suit incurred;				
7	7. For such	other and further r	elief as the court ma	y deem proper.		
8	Date :: March 3	9,2007	44.4	<i>l</i> .		
9		2	Mack Antoin	w Foster		
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EXHIBIT "D"

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

MARK ANTOINE FOSTER,

No. RG06302322

Plaintiff,

ALAMEDA COUNTY

vs.

NOV 2 1 2007

OPERATION DIGNITY, INC, et al.,

Defendants.

CLERK CF THE SUPERIOR COURT
By Pairie See

CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

On the court's own motion, this action is consolidated for all purposes with another case between the same parties:

Foster vs. Operation Dignity, Inc., No. RG07318238.

All future filings will use No. RG06302322

The next case management conference for these cases will be on March 7, 2008 at 9:00 p.m. in Department 19.

The case management of these related cases goes to the judge with the case that was filed first.

Dated: November 20, 2007

Stephen Dombrink

Judge of the Superior Court

<u>Foster v. Operation Dignity, Inc., a California Non-Profit Corp et al.</u> U.S.D.C., Northern Dist. OF California, C075030 MMC

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I sent by regular U.S. Mail, the following:

DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF MOTION TO DISMISS, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO STAY; DECLARATION OF JAY W. BROWN AND EXHIBITS "A" - "D" ATTACHED THERETO; [PROPOSED] ORDER IN SUPPORT THEREOF

Mark Antoine Foster In Pro Per 725 Ellis Street, #408 San Francisco, CA 94109

Executed on December 3, 2007 at Pleasanton, California. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Tonyia Neves